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THE

# Library Journal

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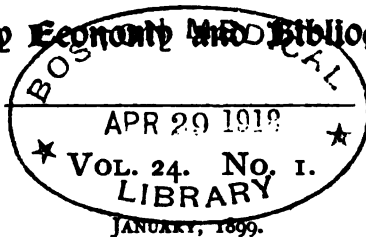
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No. 1

THE library year 1898 was notable for the largest library meeting ever held, the 20th conference of the American Library Association, held at Lake Chautauqua, a place removed from great library centres, so that the attendance of 500 library people meant as many pilgrimages of library devotees. The L. A. U. K. meeting at Southport in August, under Lord Crawford's presidency, was also notably successful, and the brethren in Australia, who initiated their organization two years since, held the first formal conference of the Library Association of Australasia in Sydney in October. The second conference of Italian librarians occurred at Turin in September, and a meeting of Austrian librarians was held in March. Another conference was had in London, under the auspices of the Royal Society, for the further development of its plans for the international catalog of scientific literature, toward which real progress was made. The Société Bibliographique, devoted chiefly to Roman Catholic literature, held the third of its international conferences, succeeding those of 1878 and 1888, in Paris in April, and a special library conference to discuss the care of manuscripts convened in Switzerland in September. In the United States the Library Congress held in connection with the Trans-Mississippi Exposition at Omaha in September was usefully successful. A National Association of State Librarians was organized at the meeting held in Washington in November; and an Association of Medical Librarians was initiated at a meeting in May in Philadelphia. The American Historical Association at its general meeting in December provided for the appointment of a bibliographical committee, which should do valuable work in its special field. The A. L. A. conference of 1899 at Atlanta, in May, is expected to be the important event of the present year, since it should lead to important library developments in the south, the part of the country at present most backward in this field.

No new state library commissions or state associations of librarians are to be recorded for the year, but in the "Bay state" the Bay Path Library Club in central Massachusetts, and the Western Massachusetts Library Club, have been

established as local agencies for library progress in affiliation with the state association; and in New York the Buffalo Library Club has been started and a plan for the federation of the local clubs in connection with the state association has had consideration. Wisconsin, one of the banner library states, has developed several local associations as the result of its state commission. The most notable development of the year, perhaps, has been effected through the women's clubs, which in portions of the country have turned their attention especially to the development of the travelling library system. The travelling library has been introduced in this way into Kansas, Missouri, Kentucky, Texas, and Alabama; in Wisconsin the remarkable development of the state has been greatly helped by the influence of the women's clubs; and in parts of the south these clubs have been almost the only means of library extension. The travelling library plan has also been introduced into Maryland; plans are being made for it in Nebraska; an important library meeting—the first general state conference, indeed—was held in San Francisco in December, with special reference to its adoption in connection with the state library; and the work has also been taken up in British Columbia, where the system has state support. It is hoped that the efforts made in Indiana, Nebraska, Minnesota, Tennessee, and other states in the direction of state library commissions may meet with success in 1899.

THE Library of Congress, under the administration of Mr. Young, has done excellent work in its first year of occupancy of its new building, particularly in its copyright bulletin, the issue of printed catalog cards of current copyright accessions, through the co-operation of the cataloging and copyright departments; the opening of a department for the blind, and evening opening, with plans for keeping open on holidays also. Its local work in Washington is now supplemented and will be largely taken up by the Washington Public Library, which is now fairly established in a building adapted to its purposes, and has received promise of a gift from Andrew Carnegie of \$250,000 for a new building, on condition that Congress appropriate

\$10,000 annually for maintenance. The building of the New York Public Library is not yet under way, but it is believed that the opposition of the present city authorities will be withdrawn, and that bonds will presently be issued for the preparation of the site and other preliminary work. The Brooklyn Public Library is assured \$40,000 yearly under the charter of Greater New York, and important developments of its plans may be expected for the coming year.

PROGRESS has been made, not only by the national library, but in the office of the Superintendent of Documents, where the new appointee, Mr. Ferrell, has shown every disposition to continue the good work done for the public in this field, originally by Dr. J. G. Ames, before the organization of this department, and later by Mr. F. A. Crandall, the first Superintendent of Documents. Important improvements have been initiated by Mr. Ferrell, and others are under consideration, as shown in his first report to the Public Printer. It is not expected that further public document legislation can be had at the short session of Congress ending March 4, but Senator Lodge, chairman of the Joint Committee on Printing, the Superintendent of Documents, and other authorities have expressed the hope that the additional reforms already urged upon the government by the American Library Association may become law at the opening session of the new Congress, and the co-operation of the A. L. A. has been cordially invited. Considerable progress has been made in the matter of state publications, the A. L. A. committee on public documents having completed preliminary inquiries as to the condition of state libraries and state publications, as required by the resolution of the Chautauqua conference. The material for the proposed check-list of state publications is reported as approximately in shape for the eastern and central states, so that the first part of this trial bibliography may be expected early in 1899. The political appointments of state librarians, resulting in changes every one, two, or four years, are still the great obstacle in the way of state library development, although in several recent cases the new incumbents have shown great energy and interest in their new work.

THE Publishing Section of the A. L. A. has issued the revised edition of the "List of subject headings," a list of French fiction prepared

by Mme. Cornu and Mr. Beer, has started the annotated cards for current publications in English history, and has continued the printed cards for current scientific and other serials made possible by the co-operation of the great libraries. Progress has been made on the important "evaluated" bibliography of American history, under the editorship of Mr. Larned, which Mr. Iles has generously undertaken to present to the A. L. A., and which it is hoped will be in print within 1899. Bolton's "Catalogue of scientific and technical periodicals, 1665-1895," is an important contribution to bibliography. The general index to the LIBRARY JOURNAL, 1876-1897, is at last published, and makes a useful *index rerum* on library topics. Abroad, the L. A. U. K., severing its connection with *The Library*, announces a new official organ, the *Library Association Record*, to begin with 1899, and the Library Assistants' Association has issued throughout the year its journalistic representative, *The Library Assistant*. Later volumes in the "Library series" have added to the number of English library manuals. The "Transactions and proceedings" of the international conference of 1897 have been published during the year, and the bibliographical conference that succeeded it in Brussels was fully reported in the *Bulletin* of the Institut International de Bibliographie. French and German indexes to periodicals have carried into the continent the system initiated by "Poole's index." Among the many library bulletins, probably the most important new feature is the three special bulletins issued by the Library of Congress on Cuba, Hawaii, and the Philippines, which marked the first step toward a proposed series of monthly bulletins to be issued by the national library.

As this issue of the JOURNAL goes to press word comes of the death of John Russell Young, Librarian of Congress, whose record as a veteran journalist and diplomatist was rounded by his brief library career, in which, by the help of well-selected assistants, much progress was made toward building up a true National Library. It is earnestly to be hoped that the successor to be named by the President will be one fit to take up the good features of Mr. Young's administration, and may be selected to become a permanent and worthy incumbent of an important post, that should be absolutely disassociated from party changes.

## CONTRIBUTION TOWARDS A BIBLIOGRAPHY OF ANCIENT LIBRARIES.

BY FREDERICK J. TEGGART, B.A., *Librarian Mechanics' Institute, San Francisco.*

THE bibliographical contribution here presented is the first section of an attempt towards a "library bibliography." It is hoped that it may prove useful in connection with the work of the various library schools and bibliographical courses.

The present section ends with the establishment of Christianity in the ancient world, consequently no works dealing with Christian institutions are included.

There are given, as nearly as possible, all classical references to libraries and all the writings of any importance which have appeared in print. Of the latter nearly 300 titles are listed, about one-half being of works in the compiler's possession. Although every effort has been made to verify the accuracy of the remaining half of the bibliography, a margin of error is unavoidably present because of the impossibility of seeing all the books included, and this applies also to a few references to later Greek and Roman authors whose works are not accessible.

The compiler will be grateful for any additions or corrections which may be communicated to him.

## SYNOPSIS.

- I. General.
- II. Oriental.
- III. Greek.
  - a. Alexandria.
  - b. Pergamon.
- IV. Roman.
  - a. Herculaneum.
- V. Library management and bibliography.

## I.

## GENERAL.

- Lost work: Varro, *de bibliothecis lib. III.*
- Patricius, Franciscus. [De bibliothecis.]  
in his *De institutione reipublicae*. Paris, 1534. f°.
- in Maderus, *cit. infra*. i, 35-36.
- Cassanaeus, Bartholomaeus. [De bibliothecis.]  
in his *Catalogus gloriae mundi*. Venice, 1571. 4°. lib. 12, p. 307 f.
- in Maderus, *cit. infra*. i, 32-34.
- Middendorpius, Iac. *Academiarum celeberrimum universi terrarum orbis*. Cöln, 1594. 8°.
- *Same*. Cöln, 1602. 8°. lib. 2, p. 231 f.
- Lib. of Jerusalem. lib. 3, p. 612 f. Roman lib.

Lipsius, Justus. *De bibliothecis syntagma*. Antwerp, 1602. 4°.

— *Same in* Vossius, Gerardus. *Dissertationes de studiis bene instituendis*. Utrecht, 1658. 12°.

— *Same in* Maderus, *cit. infra*. i, 1-23.

— *Same in* his *Opera omnia*. Wesel, 1675. 4 vols. 8°.

— *Same*: *Traité des bibliothèques*. Traduit par Etienne Gabriel Peignot.

in Peignot, E. G. *Manuel bibliographique*. Paris, an ix. (1800). 8°.

Pancirollus, Guido. *De librarili sive bibliothecis*.

in his *Res memorabiles sive deperditae*. Frankfurt, 1631. 4°. tit. xxii.

in Maderus, *cit. infra*. i, 30-31.

Tomasini, Giacomo Filippo. *De bibliothecis manuscriptis*.

in his *Bibliothecae Patavinae manuscriptae publicae et privatae*. Udina, 1639. 4°. preface.

in Maderus, *cit. infra*. i, 54-62.

Jacob de Saint-Charles, Louis. *Traicté des plus belles bibliothèques publiques et particulières, qui ont esté et qui sont à présent dans le monde*. Paris, 1644. 12°.

Lomeier, Johann. *De bibliothecis libellus*. Zütphen, 1662. 12°.

— *De bibliothecis liber singularis*. Zütphen, 1669. 8°.

— *Same*. 2d ed. Utrecht, 1680. 8°.

— *Same in* Maderus, *cit. infra*. lii (1705), 1-278.

[—] *Same abridged*: *Traité historique des plus belles bibliothèques de l'Europe*. . . . Par le Sieur [Pierre] Le Gallois. Paris, 1680. 16°.

— *Same*. Paris, 1685. 16°.

— *Same*. Amsterdam, 1697. 16°.

On the relation of these works and the following see *Nation* (May 20, 1897) 64: 377-378.

[—] *Same*: A critical and historical account of all the celebrated libraries in foreign countries, as well ancient as modern. . . . By a Gentleman of the Temple. London, 1739. 16°.

— *Same*: An account of all the celebrated libraries. Reprinted [by Sir Thomas Philipps] from a small work printed in 1739. Middle Hill, 1826. f°.

so copies privately printed.

— *Same*. 2d ed. London, 1740. 16°.

- Hottinger, Johann Heinrich. *Bibliothecarius quadripartitus*. Zürich, 1664. 4°. Pt. I. p. 7-34.
- Maderus, Joachimus Joannes, *ed.* *De bibliothecis atque archivis virorum clarissimorum libelli et commentationes*. Helmstädt, 1666. 4°.
- *Same*. Secundam editionem curavit J. A. S[chmidt]. Helmstädt, 1702-5. 3 vols. 4°.
- References throughout are given to the ad ed. The work contains the following which are not mentioned elsewhere:
- Neander, Michael. *De bibliothecis deperditis ac noviter instructis*. I, 37-53.
- Spizel, Gottlieb. *Dissertatio de illustrium bibliothecarum nov-antiquarum exstruk-tione*. II, 135-212.
- Struve, Burckhard Gotthelf. *De bibliothecis earumque praefectis*. Jena, 1696. 12°.
- *De jure bibliothecarum*. Halle, 1702. 4°.
- *Same*. Jena, 1709. 4°.
- *Introductio in notitiam rei litterariae et usum bibliothecarum*. Jena, 1704. 8°. ch. 2.
- *Same*. Other eds. Jena, 1706, 1710, 1729, 1754. 8°.
- *Same*. Frankfurt & Leipzig, 1754. 8°.
- Falsterus, Christianus. *Sermo panegyricus de variarum gentium bibliothecis scholasticis*. Flensburg, 1720.
- Schulze, —. *De bibliothecis publicis veterum*. Naumburg, 1737.
- Schellhorn, Johann Georg. *Anleitung für Bibliothekare und Archivare*. Ulm, 1788-91. 2 vols. 8°. I, 116-186.
- Horne, Thomas Hartwell. *An introduction to the study of bibliography. To which is prefixed a Memoir on the public libraries of the antients*. London, 1814. 2 vols. 8°. I, 1-25.
- Petit-Radel, Louis Charles François. *Recherches sur les bibliothèques anciennes et modernes, jusqu'à la fondation de la bibliothèque Mazarine*. Paris, 1819. 8°. p. 1-59.
- Savage, James. *Ancient libraries. in his Memorabilia*. Taunton, 1820. 8°.
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- Bailly, J. L. A. *Notices historiques sur les bibliothèques anciennes et modernes*. Paris, 1828. 12°.
- Géraud, Pierre Hercule Joseph François. *Essai sur les livres dans l'antiquité, particulièrement chez les Romains*. Paris, 1840. 8°. ch. 10. p. 211-228.
- Schmidt, Johann August Friedrich. *Hand-buch der Bibliothekswissenschaft, der Literatur- und Bücherkunde*. Weimar, 1840. 8°. p. 215-283.
- Cowper, B. H. *Notices of ancient libraries. Notes and queries*, ser. I, vol. 11 (1855): 258, 337, 361.
- Additions: P. H. Gosse, 11: 493; E. W. O., 11: 512.
- Edwards, Edward. *Memoirs of libraries*. London, 1859. 2 vols. 8°. I, 1-79.
- *Libraries and founders of libraries*. London, 1864. 8°. p. 1-21.
- Becker, Wilhelm Adolf and Teuffel, Wilhelm S. *Bibliotheca. in Paulys Real-Encyclopädie der classischen Altertumswissenschaft*. 2. Aufl. Stuttgart, 1862 f. 8°. I, pt. 2. p. 2374-2376.
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- *Same*: *Biblioteche antiche e moderne*. [Trad. C. Castellani.] *Il buonarrotti*, ser. II, vol. 11. (July & Aug., 1876).
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- Tedder, Henry R. and Thomas, Ernest Chester. *Libraries: history and description. in Encyclopaedia Britannica*, vol. 14 (1882): 509-536.
- Castellani, Carlo. *Le biblioteche nell' antichità dai tempi più remoti alla fine dell' impero romano d' Occidente*. Bologna, 1884. 16°.
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in Maderus, cit. supra. II, 213-228.

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## III.

## GREECE.

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- Athens: Aristides *or.* xiii, vol. 1, p. 306, ed. Dindorf.
- (Pisistratus) Aulus Gellius vii, 17.1; Athenæus i, 4; Tertullian *apol.* 18; Hieronymus *ad Marcell.* xiv, 1; Isidor. *orig.* vi, 3.3.
- (Ptolemaion) Pausanias i, 17.2; CIA. ii, 465, 8; 466, 36; 468, 25; 478, 1; 480, 23; 482, 50.
- (Hadrian) Pausanias i, 18.9; Eusebius *chron.* ii, 167 ed. Schöne; Kell, *Rhein. Mus.*, N.F. 18 (1863): 269.
- (Destruction of lib.) Zonaras xii, 26; Anon. cont. of Dio Cassius in Müller, F.H.G. iv, p. 196.
- Corinth: Dio Chrysostom *or.* xxxvii, p. 104 R.
- Delphi: Keil, *Rhein. Mus.*, N.F. 18 (1863): 268.
- Patrae: Gellius xviii, 9.5.
- Smyrna: Strabo xiv, 646.
- Antioch: Malalas *chronogr.* x, p. 235, 302; Suidas *Εὐφορίων*.
- Private lib.: Xenophon *mem.* iv, 2.10; Isocrates xix, 5; Alexis *frg.* 135 K.; Strabo, ii, 69; Memnon in Photius *bibl.* 222 b; Lucian *adv. indoct.* 4; Athenæus i, 4; Diogenes Laertius *Strato* 7, *Lycon* 9, *Epicurus* 8.
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## a. Alexandria.

Lost works : Alcidas Mosonios.

Aristonicus *περί τοῦ ἐν Ἀλεξανδρίᾳ Μουσίου*.

Callimachus Μουσίου.

Strabo xiii, 609.

Plutarch *apoph.* reg. p. 189 D. Athenæus i, 4, v, 203 e. Eusebius *chron.* i, 52, ii, 118 f. ed. Schöne. Isidor. *orig.* vi, 3, 3; Syncellus p. 271, 273.(LXX. translation) Aristæus in Eusebius *praef.* v. viii, 2; Philo *vit.* Mos. 2; Josephus *ant. jud.* xii, 2; Justin *cohort. ad Graecos* c. 23, *apol.* i, 31; Irenæus *adv. haer.* iii, 21; Clement Alex. *strom.* i, 22; Tertullian *apol.* c. 18; Eusebius *praef.* v. viii, 1-3, xiii, 12, *A. c.* v, 8, 11; Theonas *ep. ad Luc.* 7; Athanasius *synop. scrip.* ii, p. 156; Cyril *catech.* p. 36, 37; Epiphanius *de mens. et pond.* c. 9-11; Hieronymus *praef. in Pent., quæst. in Genes. proem.*; Augustin *de civ.* Dei xviii, 42; Chrysostom *adv. jud.* i, 443; Hilary *in psalm.* 2; Theodoret *praef. in psalm.*; Zonaras *ep. hist.* iv, 16.

(Acquiring books) Galenus xvii, p. 603, 607.

(Destruction by Cæsar) Seneca *de trans. anim.* ix, 5; Plutarch *Cæs.* 49; Gellius vii, 17, 3; Dio Cassius xlii, 38; Ammianus Marcellinus xxii, 16, 19-13; Orosius vi, 15, 31.(Librarians) Suidas 'Απολλώνιος, 'Αριστάρχος, 'Αριστοφάνης βιβλάντιος, 'Αριστάντος, Διονύσιος, 'Ερατοσθένης, Ζηρόδοτος, Καλλιμάχος; Athenæus ix, 408; *vit. anon. Apoll. Rh.* p. 51 Westerm. *see also* inscriptions CIG. 5900; *Journal Hellenic studies*, 9: 240, Mahaffy *Empire*, p. 424.(Serapeum) Tertullian *apol.* c. 18; Epiphanius *de mens. et pond.* c. 11; Ammianus Marc. xxii, 16, 19 (cf. Traube, in *Comment. Woelflinianæ* Lpz., 1891. 8°. p. 202); Aphthonius *prog.* 12, p. 107 W.; Orosius vi, 15, 32; Eutychius *ann.* i, p. 296.(Sebasteum) Philo *leg. ad Cæs.* 22.

(Destruction by Amrou)

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(To be concluded.)

## THE CARE OF PAMPHLETS.\*

BY CHARLOTTE H. FOYE, *John Crerar Library, Chicago.*

IN most libraries the pamphlets dwell in a corner, which might well be labelled "The land of 'Poco Tiempo.'" There was a plaintive undertone in almost all letters that I received from libraries on this subject. They began, "At present we are doing very little, but 'pretty soon' we expect to have time and money to catalog and bind our pamphlets as they deserve." Indeed, as in many homes which have existed in one place for several generations, there is apt to be some closet out of which flap the frayed edges of garments that might be, or at least have been, of some use, so in most libraries of any long standing there is generally a corner where one comes upon dust-hidden bundles with torn covers, material which would doubtless be of much value if it were only in available form.

There has been a steady, if slow, evolution in the treatment of pamphlets. They have progressed from the large disorderly mass up to the single pamphlet bound by itself and treated with as much respect as a book. In this age of specialization we realize that each pamphlet contains at least one thought, and this concisely stated — a tiny monograph usually on a subject of immediate interest, and as valuable as the advance sheets of a new book. The material on the Röntgen ray, which appeared in pamphlet form before books on the subject were possible, serves as a fair example of what comes to us in this perishable form. It is generally conceded that the proper thing to do is to classify pamphlets and bring them together with the books on a given subject. A librarian with available funds can no longer question "to bind or not to bind," but must simply ask himself what is the cheapest and most durable form of binding. When the cost ranges from three cents up, ought not every library to find some method which would suit its peculiar needs?

There are numerous bindings which have been recommended as satisfactory by various librarians. The cheapest is the manila cover, which can be put on with clips or patent novelty paper-fasteners. The manila cover with cloth back is more durable, and costs only three

cents. What is known as the Harvard binder is recommended by several large libraries; this binding has sides of light boards, with cloth back and cloth stubs on the inside. When it is desired to bind a pamphlet all that is necessary is to cover the flaps with glue or surgeon's plaster and insert the book. It is held in place and preserved perfectly. Some of the covers are made to hold two or three of the very thin pamphlets. If preferred, the binding may be sewn on rather than pasted. In Manchester, Eng., this binding is used, the only difference being that the cloth stubs are prepared with a glue that has only to be moistened to be ready for immediate use. The cost of the Harvard binding is six cents.

The John Crerar Library has two styles of binding — both holliston, but one finished in every way as a book and costing 25 cents, while the other, which is cut off squarely at the ends, only costs 15 cents. The pamphlet cover is bound in, unless all the information is found elsewhere; then it is pasted outside the cover and serves as a binder's title. A temporary binding is also used which is giving satisfaction and may be heartily recommended. It is called the Reform self-binder, and is of cloth, with a back in the form of a flap, which fits from one side into the other and allows for as much enlargement as is needed. Inside there are two stubs which have eyelet holes; with the cover come little holders of narrow cloth bands into which the pamphlet is pasted and in which are also eyelet holes, any number of which may be laced into the cover. This binding costs 50 cents, and each holder about two cents. In this library they are used for incomplete volumes and annual reports. This and the Rudolph binder are excellent for temporary use. In the binding done for the University of Chicago tapes are run through the sewing or are pasted on the back of the pamphlet, while the end papers cover these tapes, which are pasted down on the boards. The University of Michigan binds in boards and in cloth, the work being very neatly done for from 20 to 25 cents.

In many libraries pamphlets are divided into three classes: those valuable enough to bind singly; others smaller and less valuable, which

\* Read at Interstate Library meeting, Evanston, Ill.

are allowed to accumulate until there are enough on a given subject to make a sizable volume; and finally those of such transient value or such vague import as not to warrant binding. For the latter, pamphlet boxes can be obtained and the pamphlets classified and placed with the subject on the shelves in this way.

The tendency in most libraries is away from the volume made up of a collection of pamphlets and toward the work bound singly. If there is any attempt made toward logical or chronological arrangement in a volume the time inevitably comes when it is necessary to tear apart the volume for insertions. The University of Wisconsin recently had to rebind 40 volumes of pamphlets on slavery for this reason.

Bound pamphlets are invariably accorded the same care and attention as books. The cataloger will always object to having several things bound together; but if this has to be, a note giving the contents solves the difficulty for the reference librarian. In many libraries pamphlets are accessioned separately, with an initial P to distinguish the accession number. Many think "Dust thou art and to dust thou shalt return" the only appropriate motto for pamphlets; but material of this order, when not even deemed worthy of the cataloger's attention, often proves a very present source of help to the reference librarian, who will be acquainted with his resources in this line if the work of classifying is left to him.

### THE IDEAL LIBRARIAN.

*Melvil Dewey, in Transactions of International Library Conference.*

IN our state library school I give each year a course of five lectures on the qualifications of a librarian, and point out under a half-hundred different heads the things we should demand in an ideal librarian; but when we have covered the whole field of scholarship and technical knowledge and training, we must confess that overshadowing all are the qualities of the man. To my thinking, a great librarian must have a clear head, a strong hand, and, above all, a great heart. He must have a head as clear as the master in diplomacy; a hand as strong as he who quells the raging mob or leads great armies on to victory; and a heart as great as he who, to save others, will, if need be, lay down his life. Such shall be greatest among librarians; and, when I look into the future, I am inclined to think that most of the men who will achieve this greatness will be women.

### REPORT OF THE LIBRARIAN OF CONGRESS.

THE report of John Russell Young, Librarian of Congress, for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1898, was submitted to Congress on Dec. 12, and advance summaries make possible a fairly full statement of its contents. Additions to the library have been made upon systematic lines. "The first consideration was the 'filling of the gaps,' and especially in the way of periodicals and newspapers," to which complete sets of all periodicals indexed in "Poole" are to be added. In the same way it is intended to round out all departments, and to specialize in the literature of all movements and events connected with the national life. Mr. Young asks that the appropriation of \$15,000 be further enlarged "so as to broaden the library in every phase of progress," and to enable it to properly develop its collections.

"In the librarian's report for 1897, written while the library was in progress of transfer from the capitol to the new building, the collection was estimated at 787,715 volumes and 218,340 pamphlets. The duplicates were estimated at from 33 to 40 per cent. Last year it was impossible to give anything but an estimate of the contents of the library. A careful count has been made up to Sept. 30, 1898, with the following result: Total, 698,462; copyright deposits (all duplicates), 126,986; grand total, 825,448. Pamphlets—cataloged and on shelves, 50,360; uncataloged and duplicates, 176,612; total, 226,972."

"From the beginning of October, 1897, when the removal of the books from the capitol was completed, till Nov. 1, the assistants have been engaged in placing the books in order on the shelves." The daily average of readers for the year has been 155, the total number is given as 63,493; the number of books issued in the reading-room was 103,711, while the number issued for special home use was 15,509. The night opening of the library, begun Oct. 1, 1898, has extended its hours of use from the old hours of 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. to from 9 a.m. to 10 p.m., and the experiment has proved wholly successful, the evening average of attendance ranging from 150 to 240.

"The librarian is glad to note that the library is becoming, as it were, a bureau of information, consulted by people from all sections. 20 years ago, as a rule the library was sought for a specific book; to-day applicants ask advice as to reading or request special information. It is the policy of the library to encourage this spirit of inquiry, and no question is put aside until every channel of information is exhausted. Inquiries by mail are mainly requests for extracts from rare books or old newspapers, the history of cases before foreign tribunals, suggestions as to reading, help in research, and about genealogy and family history. When it is found that a book called for by a reader is not in the library, the title is taken at the desk and the volume ordered. Cards requesting readers to furnish the libra-

rian with the names of books desired are distributed from the desk.

"While the daily service of the library is continued, the work of classification and arrangement goes on. The larger part of the library has so far advanced that no further arrangement will be needed until the consummation of the reclassification. Duplicates are eliminated for purpose of exchange. Uncataloged books, law-books, periodicals, maps, and music, which came in chaos from the capitol, have been assorted, and thousands of volumes thus received given place on the shelves." As soon as the reorganization is sufficiently perfected it is hoped to issue monthly bulletins illustrative of the library's aims and work. The several bibliographical bulletins issued during the year marked the beginning of this departure.

The work of the copyright department for the 15 months from July 3, 1897, is briefly summarized: "There have been 98,391 entries of copyright. There have been collected and paid into the treasury \$64,455 as fees for copyright business. Letters to the number of 36,376, containing remittances, have been received. We have received 21,528 orders for the payment of money which was paid into the treasury. This included 14,521 money orders, 1352 drafts, and 938 express orders for money. There have been drawn 2075 checks, which were mailed to persons to whom excess fees or unused fees were to be returned, and for each check thus drawn an index card has been made, giving a concise statement of the transaction requiring the refund."

Closely allied to the copyright work is the progress made in the catalog department. Here the subject cataloging has been in arrears since 1867, when the copyright work was made a part of the library system, and a considerable increase of working force will be necessary to bring the resources of the library promptly before the public. The printing on cards of all entries for copyright books published after July 15, 1898, marks the beginning of the new catalog system, and the work will advance "as rapidly as the strength of the force allowed by Congress will permit."

The accessions in the various departments are summarized. The Department of Graphic Arts now comprises 59,908 prints; in the Maps and Charts division a total of 50,195 items is given as the result of a careful count, of which 22,495 may be said to represent "the discovery of maps in the old library, their rescue, mending, mounting, and their final assignment"; of bound volumes of newspapers and periodicals 48,511 v. are reported; from the Manuscript Department 23,397 "original pieces of all kinds" is reported, with 1049 v. of bound manuscripts; and in the Department of Music there are 198,894 items, of which 10,848 were received in 1898. The Law Department, contained chiefly in the old Supreme Court room, reports an aggregate of 101,870 v., of which 4055 are accessions of 1898; attention is called to the congested condition of this library in its ill-lighted and inconvenient quarters, and men-

tion is made of the establishment in the main library of an alcove for law students, in which about 1000 duplicate volumes, including elementary works, were placed. The work of the Department for the Blind, though largely experimental, has been most gratifying. 479 blind readers are reported, and there were 2910 registered visitors, while the daily readings have been largely attended and appreciated. A reading-room for children has been set apart and is now in process of arrangement. It will contain from 10,000 to 12,000 volumes, and it is believed that its use will justify its continuance.

Attention is given to the minor government libraries—chiefly specialized collections—existing in the various departments; "it is believed that the entire library work of the government should be carried on under some sort of general co-operation," and it is suggested that "this should find formal expression in a uniform system of cataloging and in the requirement that a duplicate copy of each card made in any library belonging to the government should be sent to the Library of Congress, where a central catalog would always be maintained." "The government, inclusive of our own collection, owns in the capital at least 1,700,000 volumes, and it should be the aim of Congress to centralize these collections and give the public the advantage of convenient access. To that end there could be no prouder contribution to the cause of universal knowledge than a general catalog of all libraries enjoying government support."

The method of appointment to the library force is outlined, and reference is made to the statement prepared in compliance with the Senate resolution of Dec. 17, 1898, "showing that no nominations were made except upon information as to special library training and experience." "While the library was outside of the classified service the appointments rested with the librarian, and all care was taken to insure a worthy and permanent staff. It was in acceptance of the justified wisdom of civil service that no removals have been made except for superannuation or in the library interest. There have been no removals and no appointments for political reasons. Recommendations from whatever quarter have been received and considered as bearing upon the character and standing of the applicant. The question of fitness is decided after due inquiry and upon the rules laid down. Appointments hold good and promotions follow only as applicants maintain the record which led to their selection."

The report is comprehensive, careful, and shows a sincere appreciation of the proper scope and aims of the national library. It gives good reason for the confidence expressed by Mr. Young that "with the considerate care of Congress, and a due appreciation of what has been done and what as readily may be done through the support of the American people, there is no reason why the Library of Congress should not soon rival those splendid libraries over the sea, whose treasures are a people's pride and whose growth is the highest achievement of modern civilization."

## REPORT OF THE SUPERINTENDENT OF DOCUMENTS.

THE report of the Superintendent of Documents for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1898, appears as part of the report of the Public Printer for the same period, and is an excellent summary of the work of the Document office. From a total of 971,032 documents (of which 639,298 were accessions for the year 1897-98), 558,993 were distributed, 154,081 going to designated depositories, state and territorial libraries, and 51,998 to miscellaneous libraries. An increase of 54 and 75 per cent. respectively is shown in the receipt and distribution of documents as compared with the previous year, "which is very gratifying in view of the fact that there was no corresponding increase in the number of employees."

The reorganization of the office, under Mr. Ferrell's direction, into six distinct sections, has resulted in systematizing its work and increasing its effectiveness. In the catalog department "there were issued 12 monthly catalogs, two document indexes, and one document catalog (comprehensive index), aggregating 1651 pages. The number of documents received for cataloging purposes was 10,012; the number of cards written was 48,383." In regard to the publication of the "comprehensive index," required to be issued at the close of each regular session, Mr. Ferrell recommends that the law be amended to authorize the publication of this catalog biennially, thus preventing the lapping over of sessions and allowing inclusion of special sessions.

The "document library" now contains 23,247 items. This library, though not authorized either in terms or by implication in the act creating the office, was a natural result of the provision of placing duplicates of all documents in the office for cataloging purpose, and it has been extensively used as an "information bureau" on topics treated in government publications.

The work of distributing the "Messages and papers of the Presidents" has been facilitated. "During the seven months ended June 30, 1898, an average force of three employees sent out 95,000 volumes, as compared with 35,000 sent out during the preceding five months, during which nine persons were employed. Besides the work of sending out the 95,000 volumes, the entire card system was changed, new cards were written, and the mailing list printed." "The compilation entitled 'Messages and papers of the Presidents' is distributed to persons and institutions designated by senators, representatives, and delegates in Congress. Three editions have been authorized, aggregating 36,000 sets. The first two editions of 21,000 sets were subject to designation by members of the 54th Congress; the third edition of 15,000 sets by members of the 55th Congress. Each set will contain nine volumes and an index. It is expected that the distribution will be finished by the 4th of March, 1899. The value of the card system in the distribution of documents has been fully tested

and demonstrated in the sending of these documents. 2000 duplications have been prevented, a saving of four and two-fifths sets to each member on an average, and of 20,000 volumes of books which cost the government about \$1 each to publish."

Special attention is given to the distribution of documents to libraries, and the difficulty of determining whether designated libraries are "suitable" depositories is noted. This decision is vested by law in the Superintendent of Documents, and under that authority a circular letter was sent to all depositories "with 12 interrogatories, calculated, if answered fully, to give all the information necessary to fix the status of such libraries. It is quite evident, however, from the replies received that nothing short of a personal inspection will enable the Superintendent of Documents to determine the condition of at least 20 per cent. of the libraries now listed." Efforts have been made to complete the sets of public documents in the designated depository libraries. "A complete list of all documents available for such a purpose was prepared, printed, and sent to them in May, 1898, with request that the list be returned with a check indicating the documents needed. 101 lists have been returned, and 75 libraries have been supplied with upwards of 50,000 volumes." Summarized statistics are given respecting the depositories, and there is a separate list of the miscellaneous libraries receiving documents.

"Document reform" is briefly considered. Mr. Ferrell points out the increase in the cost and extent of distributing documents to libraries, and the lack of method that had prevailed for years. "During the past 40 years," he says, "documents have been printed in such large editions and distributed with such liberal prodigality as to cheapen them in the estimation of the people at large. They were distributed broadcast without regard, in many cases, to the wishes of recipients, and as a consequence were not only not appreciated, but were regarded with contempt. Instances have recently come to my knowledge where retiring members of Congress shipped out by the carload the documents that had accumulated to their credit. Dozens of copies of the same document were sent to one library, where they were only an encumbrance, and after years of storage in garrets or cellars they found their way to this office in their 'original wrapping' for redistribution. Librarians, as a rule, however, have always appreciated the value of the publications of the government. Most of them want one copy of everything they can get; they want that copy as soon after it is printed as possible; they want documents in complete sets, but they do not want them dumped upon them, as is often done, without regard to whether they have previously been supplied or not." These wants have in large measure been met by the act of Jan. 12, 1895, which was the first effective step in bringing order out of chaos. There are still, however, much-needed improvements to be made: 1, in reducing the number of agencies by which public documents are dis-



tributed; 2, unifying the title-pages and styles of binding of documents; and 3, providing for the prompt binding of "reserved" documents. Regarding the stock of reserved unbound documents, held for special orders, it is suggested "that the law be amended so as to authorize the Public Printer to bind in cloth such documents as are not called for within two years after printing and deliver them to the Superintendent of Documents for distribution to public, school, or college libraries." Reference is made to the several bills on document reform now pending in Congress, and it is hoped "that some legislation may be had very soon that will remedy the difficulties pointed out."

#### CALIFORNIA LIBRARY CONFERENCE.

THE library conference held under the auspices of the Library Association of California and the California State Library Nov. 25 and 26, 1898, proved one of the most interesting events in the library activities of the state. The meeting was held in the senate chamber of the capitol, and its prime purpose, as outlined in the call issued Oct. 11 (*L. J.*, 23: 620), was to consider the establishment through the state library of a system of travelling libraries and a plan for inter-library loans. The three sessions were largely attended, there was no lack of interesting discussion, and a committee was finally appointed to draft for submission to the legislature a bill providing for a state travelling library system.

The meeting was called to order by F. L. Coombs, state librarian, who stated that it was the first general library conference in the history of the state, and after a few words of welcome introduced G. T. Clark, president of the state library association, who acted as chairman of the meeting. Mr. Clark briefly reviewed the library condition of the state and outlined the plan of the meeting. Under the existing library law, he said that but 40 towns in California had established public libraries, and he urged the need of some method of aiding general library development. Mr. Coombs followed with a paper on "The state library and its functions." He regretted that the usefulness of the library had often been hampered by the attacks of politicians. It was well known that the library had, in the past, often been the subject of political attack, and it should be recognized that it was an institution that should be exempt from the political rules that applied to other offices. He was glad to say that there had been many men of culture and literary accomplishments in the position of state librarian, and that the books had been, for the most part, well selected. They were certainly too valuable for general circulation, and he thought they should be held as books of reference. While he did not care to express any opinion as to the value of travelling libraries, he was inclined to think that there were a great many books in the state library of a character that could not be sent through the

mails or by express without damage. The first question of importance to be considered was, how could the library be best used for the benefit of the masses? Several systems were proposed—travelling libraries and inter-library loans—but there was another system, by which it might be turned into a department for the gathering of valuable information. In conclusion, he recommended that there should be a law by which the trustees would be allowed to experiment on methods for the improvement of the library. He suggested that the law department be separated from the main collection, that it be opened so that lawyers could have access to it at later hours than the general library is open, and that the cataloging be improved and made more useful.

In the discussion that followed, W. S. Green opposed the travelling library system, advocating the development of the library as a great reference collection; and W. H. Mills criticised the objections to political control, saying that "if the library, the penal institutions, and the asylums were taken out of politics, the people would have very little at their disposal." He thought that the people should control their own educational system, and that improvement in government would be attained only by raising the intelligence of the people. J. C. Rowell said politics would be immaterial if the library force was always thoroughly efficient and informed. Frank D. Ryan, president of the library trustees, followed with a short address of welcome.

"The possible relations of public school libraries to the state library" was the subject of a detailed paper by W. W. Seaman, assistant state librarian. He said that the total expenditure for school libraries since 1866 had been \$2,326,176, and that nearly a million books had been bought. The average annual expenditure for school libraries is now about \$70,000. The question as to whether or not it was possible to bring about a closer union between the school library and the state library was an open one; but the speaker doubted if such a union would be of any benefit to the district library, owing to the differences in the scope and aims of the two collections. The last paper of the session was by W. H. Weinstock, on "The library and the community."

At the evening session Mr. Coombs presided. The first address was by H. C. Nash, librarian of the state university, on "The state library as a copyright depository." This was a review of the unsuccessful movement started about a year since to obtain additional copyright depositories, and a plea for further work in the same direction. The committee then appointed planned to take up the work again and to draft another bill, designating the California State Library as a copyright depository for the Pacific coast. In the discussion the question of shelf room for possible copyright volumes was raised, and Mr. Coombs stated that enlargement of the present quarters would probably be necessary.

"Travelling libraries" was the subject of a

paper by W. P. Kimball, who has long advocated the adoption of the system for California. Mr. Kimball reviewed the rapid development of the travelling library movement within the past few years, its many advantages, and the impetus it had given to local library organization. He said that in California there were over 30 counties, with a population of 350,000, where there were no public libraries, and no bookstores worthy of the name, and he recommended the establishment of a public library department, to be under the control of the state university, to act as a state commission in fostering and aiding local libraries. The paper was listened to with interest, and the discussion that ensued seemed more favorable to the travelling library idea than had been the case previously. W. D. Armes, trustee of the Oakland Public Library, spoke on "Legislation that is needed," urging the extension of the copyright system, improved library legislation, and a library commission.

Mr. W. H. Mills was the last speaker of the evening, and his address on "The educational value of libraries" was an argument for the development of the state library as a reference library. He disapproved of any form of circulation for the state library books, and thought that all efforts should be directed to strengthening and enlarging the collection.

The final session was opened on Saturday morning with a paper on "Bibliographic aids," by F. J. Teggart, of the Mechanics' Institute Library, who reviewed the various indexes, catalogs, etc., that are necessary library tools, and urged the necessity of full and accurate bibliographies. He pointed out that there was no list showing what books had been published about California, and recommended that the library association appoint a committee to undertake the compilation and publication of a California bibliography. This suggestion was put in the form of a motion and carried.

J. C. Rowell spoke on "Classification and cataloging," emphasizing the value of the dictionary catalog; Miss N. M. Russ, of the Pasadena Public Library, discussed "Children and the library," and C. M. Weller, of Alameda, spoke on "Access to shelves," citing the successful results of that system in the Alameda Public Library. Miss Bertha Kumli, of the Santa Rosa Public Library, read a paper on "Charging systems for circulating libraries"; L. W. Ripley, of the Sacramento Public Library, explained the "Sacramento indicator system and other devices" used at that library; and Miss Emily I. Wade, of the San Francisco Public Library, gave an interesting talk on "Library processes," illustrated by forms and blanks.

The concluding business was the announcement by the chairman of the following committees: Library legislation, C. M. Weller and George T. Clark; bibliography of California, F. J. Teggart, Robert E. Cowan, and J. C. Rowell.

The meeting then adjourned, and the delegates spent a pleasant afternoon in visiting the points of interest in and about Sacramento.

## TRAVELLING LIBRARY CONFERENCES IN WISCONSIN.

THE librarians of the Stout Free Travelling Libraries of Dunn county, Wis., held their second annual institute at Menomonie on Dec. 5, 1898. About 50 persons were present, and the interest felt in the meeting may be judged from the fact that many of the delegates drove distances of 25 and 30 miles, in zero weather, to attend. F. A. Hutchins, chairman of the state library commission, presided, and in his opening address reviewed the development of the travelling library system throughout the country, 25 states being now interested in the work.

Miss Stella Lucas, of the Menomonie library, presented a report of the Stout travelling libraries in Dunn county for the first two years' work, ending May, 1898. During this period the books of the libraries were issued 14,804 times. The first year fewer libraries were at work, but now 34 of the 37 libraries are constantly out, and the circulation is over 11,000 annually. It was estimated that each book issued was read on an average by at least two persons. This would mean that 1480 books of these libraries are read 22,000 times in a year. The neighborhood which read the most in proportion to its population was a settlement among the hills in the western part of the county, called Pleasant Valley, where 20 families had drawn the books 702 times. In one neighborhood of 30 or 40 families, which had been considered incorrigible, the circulation was 521. Many of the libraries reported that the magazines, illustrated papers, and children's periodicals sent out were read as much or more than the books. The report was followed by animated informal discussions on "How to secure careful treatment of the books," "How to get teachers to make use of the libraries," and other practical topics. All the librarians reported a steadily growing interest in the libraries, especially among the young people.

Miss Brickley, county superintendent, reported that more than 50 schools are already provided with the beautiful travelling pictures provided by Senator Stout, and Miss Kate Murphy read a paper on the value of such pictures and of well-kept school-grounds and school-houses, pleading also for art instruction in the common schools.

All of the librarians were very strongly of the opinion that each travelling library station ought to be the home of a vigorous club, which should develop a better social and intellectual life in the isolated communities. The farmers' wives at one such station have had such a club for two years, and have found it an increasing pleasure. As a result of this opinion it was decided to form a strong central organization which should make a vigorous campaign to help organize local clubs and arrange for annual meetings at some central place. This organization was immediately formed, a constitution adopted, and officers elected. It was called the West Wisconsin Travelling Library Association, and the following officers were elected: President, Senator Stout; Vice-president, Mrs.

Henry Clark, of Davis; Secretary, Miss Stella Lucas. While the society is called a library association, its aim will be to make the libraries the centres for a wider work, and it is hoped to enlist the support of teachers, members of women's clubs, and friends of education in a number of counties in this part of the state.

The first meeting of the new association was held at Chippewa Falls, Wis., on Jan. 6. Two sessions were held, and the program included an address by Senator Stout, three-minute reports from various libraries, addresses on practical subjects, by Miss E. D. Biscoe, Miss Stearns, Mr. Hutchins, Miss Tanner, and others, and an address on travelling libraries, with stereopticon views, by Miss Stearns. The local associations that it is hoped to organize in this manner are to be centres of social life as well as of library development.

### "THE OTHER SIDE"—A "BOARDER."

ABOUT a year ago there appeared in the *New Illustrated Magazine* a short story by George Gissing, in which was given a striking picture of the library "boarder," familiar to most librarians. It is called "Spell-bound," and tells of a man who neglects his work, his wife, and his home to steep himself day after day in the newspapers and periodicals of the free library. He goes avowedly to search the advertisements for employment, and waits for the doors to open. "Yet he exhibited no great energy in the hunt for likely advertisements. After holding the first place for a minute or two he drew back from the newspaper and stood apart, gazing idly about him. Then, with sauntering step, he approached one of the publications which no one else cared to examine—the new number of a religious weekly—and over this he spent about a quarter of an hour. The retirement of a man from the paper next in the row seemed to give him a desired opportunity; he stepped into the vacant place and read for another quarter of an hour. And so all through the morning, from paper to paper, as his turn came. He read, it appeared, with languid interest, often staring vacantly at the windows, often gnawing the stumps of his nails, yet never seeming inclined to go away." A brief interval for lunch finds him again at his post, this time in the magazine-room. "Here readers were supplied with chairs and sat at tables, and just now all but every place was occupied. He sauntered along the floor until, unable to do better, he took a chair at the spot devoted to an organ of vegetarianism. This subject had no interest whatever for him, but he opened the periodical and read therein until a departing neighbor enabled him to exchange for the *Westminster Review*. And thus again, moving at intervals from seat to seat, he passed the afternoon."

At last he shakes off the spell with a heroic effort and takes a travelling agency for some small wares. "On the second morning he set forth again with aching limbs and a sinking heart. As it happened, his route led him past

the doors of a newly opened free library. It was like the sight of a public-house to the habitual drinker; he quivered under the temptation and whipped himself forward, but his weary legs were traitorous. The reading-room, with its smell of new print, once more drugged his conscience, and there he sat until nightfall.

"After this he yielded utterly to his vice. Pretending at home that no discouragement should daunt him, that he would work on until his agency became remunerative, he stood every morning before the familiar doors and entered with the first rush. But now he did not even glance at the advertisements. First of all he made for one or other of the journals little in demand and read it through at his ease. On certain mornings of the week the illustrated papers were his leading attraction; he darted upon the *London News*, the *Graphic*, and the rest of them with breathless excitement, and, having satisfied his curiosity, could relinquish them to others for the next six days, until, mere tattered, grimy rags, they gave place to the new issue. Knowing the moment when the evening papers would arrive, he stood ready to pounce upon this or that before anybody could anticipate him. No matter the subject, its display in fresh-smelling print sufficed to interest him, or, at all events, to hold his eyes; there he stood, spellbound, unresisting, oblivious of everything save his gratification in the mere act of reading.

"Upstairs, in the magazine-room, he read through everything that did not utterly defy his intelligence, and at the end of an article in one of the graver monthlies he would sigh with satisfaction, persuading himself that he had enriched his mind. For thus had he now begun to justify himself: on his walk home, when conscience tried to speak, he replied that he had been 'studying,' making up for the defects of his education, preparing for 'something better,' when fortune should put it in his way. He wished he could tell his wife and get her to approve, but he feared Maggie would not understand him."

Again he makes a half-hearted effort to work, but gives it up. On his homeward way, "though he had no such thing in mind, he became aware that he was passing the door of the free library. The old spell seized upon him; he was drawn across the threshold and down the stairs. The scent of newspapers, mingled with the odor of filthy garments and unwashed humanity, put him beside himself with joy; his nostrils quivered, his eyes sparkled, he strode towards the dinner-hour throng which pressed about the illustrated weeklies. Between musty heads he caught a glimpse of the tatters of last Saturday's *London News*; in five minutes' time he found his opportunity and leapt to the front."

This is the end. On the morrow he resumes his visits to the library. "Week after week went by, and he sat reading; spellbound, hypnotized. Month after month, and still he read." Meanwhile his wife and his brother supported him.

## ALTERATIONS AT THE BOSTON PUBLIC LIBRARY.

*From the Boston Transcript.*

THE extensive improvements in the library building, upon which work was begun last July, have been carried out, not only within the appropriation of \$100,000, but without abandoning any of the ideas originally planned. On the contrary, the trustees have had the novel experience of doing just about 50 per cent. more in the way of improvement than they had thought possible when they began to draw the plans. The changes, which will be completed within a month, are all in the interest of improved administration, and a rare combination of competent architects and exceedingly skilful workmen has resulted in a series of noteworthy improvements in which utility and beauty are united at almost nominal expense. Incidentally, the 530,000 books in the library are all being dusted, a work which will keep 10 men and women busy nearly five weeks. During the progress of the work the business of the library has not been suspended for a day. From the original appropriation \$15,000 has been drawn to pay for previous expenses of lighting and heating, hence the present work represents an outlay of but \$85,000. The following description deals with the more important changes only:

In the matter of reading accommodations the Boylston street driveway has been enclosed to form with the adjacent room a periodical-room. The present periodical-room on the northeast corner has been enlarged by the removal of a partition, and will become the newspaper reading-room. The use of the periodicals and newspapers, which is so closely allied, will thus be provided for in three large rooms conveniently *en suite*.

The present children's room has been relieved of the registration desk, which has been removed to the delivery-room. The children's department is to be augmented also by the addition of the present patent-room adjacent to it. This is to be fitted up as a children's reference reading-room, with a good reference library, including maps, photographs, etc., useful to children in their school work. In the gallery of this room will be a kindergarten library for teachers, augmented from the present collection.

The collection of drawings and specifications of patents is to be removed to a room in the west wing, reached from the courtyard and from the special libraries floor. The room has been enlarged and provided with galleries, and corresponds to stacks 4, 5, and 6. Besides the collection of patents it will provide in part for the work of the statistical department recently established, being directly adjacent to the collection of documents on the special libraries floor. It has also been connected with the bound volume newspaper-room, containing the most important of the files of newspapers.

One of the most important improvements has been in the system of heating and ventilation, which, by means of a new fan and the substi-

tution of steam for hot-water coils, will hereafter prove adequate.

Changes in the issue department will directly enhance the convenience of the public. The librarian's office, which was on the Blagden street wing adjacent to the Abbey room, has been thrown into the old tube-room, so-called, from which books are issued. The space for the issue of books has thus been doubled. With it the delivery counter has been doubled, and provides now distinct divisions for the return and for the issue of books. The registration desk, formerly in the children's-room, has also been provided for at this point—an essential, as its work is intimately connected with that of the delivery department, and its remoteness from that department heretofore has forced the public to traverse the whole width of the building for needs that properly should be treated together. The old system of pneumatic tubes, involving 56 stations in the building, has been overhauled, and new and improved terminals substituted. The 28 terminals in the delivery-room, formerly stretching in a line, have been grouped in a circle for more speedy operation. In addition, an auxiliary system of improved tubes (operating by suction, instead of by pressure) has been installed, which not merely connects the delivery-room with each one of the six stacks and with the special libraries floor, but connects every stack with every other stack, so that slips may be sent from stack to stack without being returned to the delivery-room. In addition, a piece of apparatus has been installed in the delivery-room, itself novel to library use. This is a "pick-up carrier," so-called. Its purpose is to transport the various slips between four points in the delivery-room doing business with one another—the issue and return desks, the record trays and the pneumatic terminals. The carrier is a little cable railway, operated by electricity. At fixed points, at intervals upon the cable, are carriers which, as they reach a station, pick up a batch of slips waiting their arrival, carry them forward and deposit them at such succeeding station as may be their destination. The carrier is not a box, but is more in the nature of a hand, which clasps the batch of slips by closing the thumb and forefinger, and releases them automatically by the opening of these two.

A new set of rooms has been created for the librarian and executive department, consisting of an ante-room, main office, private office, and a room for records and files. This suite of rooms has been connected with the trustees' room through a lobby formerly open to Blagden street, so that the whole series of rooms representing the general administration is now in proper relation *en suite*.

The librarian's office is still, however, very conveniently accessible to the public, being reached directly from the delivery-room by a corridor left open on the Blagden street side.

This set of rooms for executive use has been very ingeniously contrived, for, although taken out of storage space, the rooms are well proportioned and architecturally in keeping with the rest of the building. They are also archi-

tecturally attractive in appearance, a richness of effect having been secured by excellence of proportion and by appropriate use of dark oak, and decorative use of plaster in panel work, and most artistic treatment in the way of finish—all, however, at remarkably small expense.

In addition, the rooms allotted to the work of the 28 handlers have been enlarged and refitted with special apparatus, all the stacks have been connected by stairs, automatic lifts for the books and two electric elevators for freight and employes have been put in; the ordering department has been doubled in size; the janitor's offices have been rearranged; a public telephone and stenographic-room has been added, and locker and luncheon rooms have been made out of storage space.

#### REPORT OF THE L. A. U. K. COUNCIL.

THE report of the Council of the Library Association of the United Kingdom, as adopted and amended at the 1898 general meeting of the association, is printed in full in the December number of *The Library*, and in its summary of the year's activities and its outline of future work, is of much interest. The chief event of the year was the acquisition of a royal charter of incorporation, granted on the petition of the Marquess of Dufferin and Ava, Lord Windsor, Sir John Lubbock, and Messrs. Tedder and McAlister. In the general field of legislation, an act was passed providing for the punishment of offences in libraries, and the Public Libraries Acts Amendments bill, drafted by the association, was again brought up, but without success; two bills relating to the superannuation of librarians amongst the municipal officers were also introduced into Parliament, one of which was supported by the L. A. U. K.

Several important changes in the administration of the L. A. U. K. are recorded. Most important is the retirement of Mr. McAlister from the arduous duties of honorary secretary, which he had discharged with devotion and success for eleven years, and the election of Mr. Frank Pacy to the office. Miss Hannam, who has long served as assistant honorary secretary, has also resigned that post, and the council states that in its opinion "the time has now arrived for the employment of a paid assistant secretary, and the terms of the appointment are under their consideration."

An important feature of the report is the separate "Report of the special committee on publications," appointed by resolution of May 18, 1898. The first recommendation of this committee is "that the journal of the association should be the official organ and property of the Library Association, and that there should be an official editor of the journal and all other publications of the association." The official journal, it is suggested, should contain "1, the papers read at the meetings, which are to be printed subject to any necessary editorial revision; 2, independent articles of interest on subjects connected with the objects of the association; 3, the proceedings at the meetings, notices, and other business of the association; 4, items

of library and bibliographic news; 5, notices of catalogs and new works connected with library economy and bibliography; and, 6, correspondence." The official journal should be issued with regularity. Regarding papers and proceedings, the committee "consider it highly desirable that they should be issued in a separate volume, as was done during the years 1878-84"; they also recommend "that the reports of the meetings for the nine years, 1886 to 1891 and 1895 to 1897, which have not yet been separately published, should be printed in the form of a separate volume at the earliest opportunity." It is suggested that *The Library Association Record* be adopted as the title of the future journal—a suggestion that has been referred back to the council, with instructions to arrange, if possible, with Mr. McAlister for the transfer by him to the association of the copyright of *The Library*. In conclusion, the committee refer to the arduous work undertaken by the honorary secretary in his editing of *The Library*, and recommend that the future editor be afforded "such definite clerical assistance as he should reasonably require."

The report includes also separate reports from the Northwestern branch of the L. A. U. K., and from the North Midland Library Association, and a "Report of the education committee," reviewing the work done by the library training classes established under the auspices of the L. A. U. K. during the year.

#### PUBLIC LIBRARIES IN FRANCE.

IN a recent number of the *Semaine littéraire et scientifique*, M. Abel Chevalley presents the subject of French public libraries as they are and as they should be. His paper is entitled "Pour rebâtir," and he points out to his colleagues in French educational circles the necessity of a reconstruction of the public library system as it exists to-day in France. At present the libraries are poorly housed and ill-equipped; they are most often to be found lodged in a bare fifth-floor room, hidden in some dark corner of a cellar, in the vestibule of a school-house, or in the garret of a club-house. In such places are gathered collections of books which are opened perhaps once or twice a week, and which are well calculated to discourage any tendency toward reading; often, indeed, they remain untouched for months at a time. "There are throughout France millions of books which rest in this fashion, a prey to dust, to spiders, and to rats. It is an enormous sunken capital, neglected and unproductive. What merchant," asks M. Chevalley, "would handle his capital in such a manner? Why should not the same means as are used to draw customers to the cabaret and the shop be employed to strengthen the influence of ideas, to cultivate a taste for reading and a desire for intellectual recreations? In the crowded and uncomfortable city tenements it is evident that the workman cannot read at home. Why should he not find a chair in a public reading-room, warm, well-lighted, and attractive to the eye?"

To achieve this and to obtain from the libraries the same social and intellectual benefits that they are producing elsewhere, M. Chevalley points out that the libraries and their administration must be altogether remodelled, in line with the methods followed in Norway, Germany, Holland, and America. He urges as essentials: 1, a room opening from the street, attractive, well-lighted, fitted with comfortable seats, chairs and tables, and open every evening for the lending of books as well as for general reading; 2, an abundant supply of publications representing all great currents of opinion. "The ancients feared the man of a single book; to-day we may well fear the credulous reader of a single journal, above all, of a sensational journal. There is but one means of awakening in the minds of inexperienced readers a wholesome spirit of criticism, and that is by making it possible for them to read and compare conflicting utterances."

The reforms proposed by M. Chevalley bid fair to have practical trial. With others interested he has undertaken to remodel along these lines two or three public libraries in the most populous districts of Paris; and it is hoped that the results of this effort will lead to a more general and effective development of the libraries of the city.

#### TRAVELLING LIBRARIES IN NEW SOUTH WALES.

AN interesting system of travelling libraries is conducted for New South Wales under the direction of the Public Library of New South Wales at Sydney. Travelling libraries have been for many years in use in Australia, but the work in New South Wales has been largely broadened and strengthened by the efforts of Mr. Anderson of the Sydney library. The library has now 100 travelling libraries, averaging from 40 to 95 volumes each, specially bound to stand hard wear and packed in brass-bound oak cases. These are sent to 150 small country libraries, all charges of transportation, etc., being paid by the central library. A government grant of about £300 a year is made for the work, but of this nearly two-thirds is absorbed by the expenses of transmitting the boxes to remote parts of the colony. The field of work is constantly broadening, and an increased equipment of books is much needed.

In a recent circular Mr. Anderson points out the importance of extending the system "so as to reach the remotest villages and settlements, which get no literature at all; also to our public schools in lonely bush townships, so that we may get the children interested in reading something good." He adds: "I have started a movement to get subscriptions from the country towns and villages, which, I feel sure, the government will subsidize by an equal amount. With the proceeds I hope to equip about 150 new boxes, containing a lighter class of literature, and comprising good fiction to an extent of not more than one-third. Hitherto the idea has been to supply in these boxes only such high-class and fairly popular books of

science, travel, biography, history, and literature (with no fiction at all) as the ordinary small country library could not be expected to get for itself; but the new boxes are intended for beginners in reading, who have absolutely no literature beyond the newspaper and shilling novels. Some boxes will be intended for schools only, and will consist of juvenile books; others will be made up of popular works in all branches of human knowledge, including fiction and volumes of American magazines." The circular in question has been sent to various American publishing firms, requesting gifts of books and periodicals for the equipment of a box, to be known by the name of the donor. From the catalog slips of two of the libraries already in use, which accompany the circular, the excellent character of the books chosen is manifested. These comprise Brassey's "Papers and addresses," volumes of *Blackwood's*, *The Contemporary Review*, *All the Year Round*, *The Quiver* and *The Strand*, Dilke and Wilkinson's "Imperial defense," Froude's "Beaconsfield," "Livingstone's travels," Marx's "Capital," Roberts's "Forty-one years in India," etc., with many works upon Australia. Among the American books included are Davis's "Cuba in war time," Husmann's "American grape-growing and wine-making," the U. S. Dept. of Agriculture report on sheep-growing, and volumes of *Scribner's* and the *Popular Science Monthly*.

#### DEPARTMENT FOR THE BLIND AT THE FREE LIBRARY OF PHILADELPHIA.

A NEW department, devoted to the service of blind persons, was opened in the Free Library of Philadelphia on Jan. 1. For many years past a most valuable work has been carried on at the Bible House, at the corner of Seventh and Walnut streets, in Philadelphia, whereby the blind have been taught to read from embossed books, and volumes have been supplied for their home use. The work was mainly carried on by Mr. John P. Rhoads, and much good has been accomplished by it. Circumstances, however, arose which made it desirable to separate this work from the ordinary labors of the Bible House, and a society entitled the Philadelphia Home Teaching and Free Circulating Library for the Blind was formed, of which Judge William W. Ashman was appointed president, Dr. Robert C. Moon secretary, and Mr. Frank Read, Mr. Dundas Pratt, Mr. John H. Baird, and others named as a board of management. By mutual arrangements between the Free Library and the Home Teaching Society an affiliation has been effected between the two institutions, and the work will henceforth be managed as a department of the Free Library. The Home Teaching Society will continue to provide teachers, who will visit the homes of the blind, instruct them in reading, and see that books are taken to and from the homes of the readers in cases where they are unable, owing to the expense or otherwise, to obtain the volumes for themselves. Suitable shelves for the bulky books which constitute a

library for the blind have been fitted up in one of the rooms of the Free Library, and there were over 2000 volumes on the shelves when the department was opened to the public. Of these, between 1200 and 1500 are the property of the Home Teaching Society, and have been handed over to the Free Library, to be used by them according to their rules so long as the work is carried on by the two institutions jointly. The Free Library has also purchased between 400 and 500 new volumes, which have just arrived from England and are being cataloged. The library will be entirely free and conducted for the benefit of the public without distinction of age, sex, race, or color.

The books are of a varied character, and in addition to copies of the Scriptures and religious books, comprise biographies of Captain Cook, Columbus, Franklin, Lord Nelson, Dr. Livingstone, and George Washington. There are also a variety of books on history and elementary science, with the collected poems of Scott, Burns, and others.

It is intended as early in the year as possible to organize a series of readings for the blind, which will be given at the Free Library on stated afternoons. This plan has been very successfully carried on in several large libraries, notably in the Congressional Library at Washington. A corps of readers will be formed and the blind will be invited to a large extent to make their own selections of the pieces to be read to them. The readings will last for an hour, and have been very warmly appreciated in the libraries where this help to those who cannot read for themselves has been tried.

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### American Library Association.

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*President:* William C. Lane, Harvard University Library, Cambridge, Mass.

*Secretary:* Henry J. Carr, Public Library, Scranton, Pa.

*Treasurer:* Gardner M. Jones, Public Library, Salem, Mass.

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### State Library Commissions.

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CONNECTICUT F. P. L. COMMITTEE: Caroline M. Hewins, secretary, Public Library, Hartford, Ct.

GEORGIA LIBRARY COMMISSION: Miss Anne Wallace, secretary, Young Men's Library, Atlanta, Ga.

MASSACHUSETTS STATE L. COMMISSION: Miss E. P. Sohler, secretary, Beverly.

NEW HAMPSHIRE STATE L. COMMISSION: J. H. Whittier, secretary, East Rochester.

NEW YORK: Public Libraries Division, State University, Melvil Dewey, director, Albany.

OHIO STATE L. COMMISSION: C. B. Galbreath, secretary, State Library, Columbus.

VERMONT LIBRARY COMMISSION: Miss M. L. Titcomb, secretary, Public Library, Rutland.

The second biennial report of the Vermont Library Commission, just issued for the period 1897-98, is systematic in arrangement and comprehensive in matter, though less voluminous than its predecessor. It gives the laws of the state relative to public libraries, taken from Vermont statutes, 1894; a short history of the commission, with copies of the documents it has issued; statistical tables; and, under the heading "Histories of libraries," an entry for every town in the state, alphabetically arranged, with a short history and description of its library, if it contain one, and 22 plates illustrative of as many varieties of library architecture in the state. A folded map of Vermont showing free public libraries, and whether organized with or without state aid, and an index, form a worthy beginning and end to this neat volume.

The 11 libraries established in 1897-98 are located in Benson, Castleton, Fairlee, Highgate, Milton, Reading, Shoreham, Victory, Washington, Weston, and Wheelock. "Of the 243 towns in the state, 83 towns contain free public libraries wholly owned and controlled by the town; two contain free libraries of which the support and control is shared between private individuals and the town. Seven towns contain free libraries to which the town appropriates money without being represented in the management, and in seven towns there are free libraries entirely supported by private benefactions. This leaves 144 towns with no free public library." The libraries belonging to the schools of the state contain about 20,000 vols.

While the general results of the work of the commission have been satisfactory, there have been no noteworthy innovations in its methods. Document no. 5 consists of sensible and very simple "Suggestions to the librarian of the small library," by the secretary of the commission. A peculiarity of the classification suggested is the grouping of Education, Sociology, and Theology under the least popular of the three classes of books, Theology, and representing them by the letter T. On the question of the precedence to be given in a small library to the card catalog or the printed finding list, the secretary pronounces unconditionally in favor of the former. Following or concluding document no. 6, a \$100 list of books purchased for one of the towns is given as a sample. It is, of course, intended to supplement existing collections, and is intentionally elementary, but it is not a well-rounded selection, and gives an undue monopoly to books of the last five years and written by American authors. History is represented by North America and Spain only; Voyages and travels, by the New World and the North Pole, excepting for Lady Brassey's familiar volume, "Around the world"; while three popularly written books on birds and flowers constitute the division Science.

WISCONSIN F. L. COMMISSION: F. A. Hutchins, secretary, Madison; Miss L. E. Stearns, librarian, Milwaukee.

## State Library Associations.

### BAY PATH LIBRARY CLUB.

*President:* Miss Helen S. Carter, Leicester, Mass.

*Secretary:* C. H. Clark, West Brookfield, Mass.

*Treasurer:* Miss Nellie A. Cutter, Spencer, Mass.

### CALIFORNIA LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.

*President:* G. T. Clark, Public Library, San Francisco.

*Secretary:* F. J. Teggart, Mechanics' Institute Library, San Francisco.

*Treasurer:* Miss Emily I. Wade, Public Library, San Francisco.

For report of general conference, held under the auspices of the library association and the state library, *see* p. 17.

### COLORADO LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.

*President:* A. E. Whitaker, State University Library, Boulder.

*Secretary:* Herbert E. Richie, City Library, Denver.

*Treasurer:* J. W. Chapman, McClelland Library, Pueblo.

### CONNECTICUT LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.

*President:* Frank B. Gay, Watkinson Library, Hartford.

*Secretary:* Miss Angeline Scott, Public Library, South Norwalk.

*Treasurer:* Miss Anna G. Rockwell, New Britain Institute, New Britain.

### GEORGIA LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.

*President:* Miss Anne Wallace, Young Men's Library, Atlanta.

*Secretary-Treasurer:* C. W. Hubner, Atlanta.

### ILLINOIS STATE LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.

*President:* J. W. Thompson, Evanston.

*Secretary:* Miss Cornelia Marvin, Scoville Institute, Oak Park.

*Treasurer:* Mrs. Josephine Resor, Public Library, Canton.

### INDIANA LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.

*President:* W. E. Henry, State Library, Indianapolis.

*Secretary:* Miss Belle S. Hanna, Public Library, Greencastle.

*Treasurer:* Miss Jessie Allen, Public Library, Indianapolis.

The seventh annual meeting of the Indiana Library Association was held in the state house, Indianapolis, Tuesday morning, Dec. 27. In the absence of the president the meeting was called to order by the secretary, and Miss Elizabeth Day Swan, librarian of Purdue University, was elected president *pro tem*. The reports of the secretary and the treasurer were read and referred to an auditing committee composed of Arthur Cunningham, librarian of Indiana State Normal School; Miss Jennie Jessup, La Porte Public Library, and Miss Leatha Paddock, Terre Haute Public Library. "Certain essentials of library equipment"

was the subject of the first paper, by Mrs. Lucius B. Smith, of Indianapolis. It dealt almost entirely with the choice of books, and its keynote was that quality as against quantity should be considered, and a careful selection of the best authors made in order to educate the people who most use the public library.

"Co-operative book collecting" was a subject presented by Mr. Henry, who outlined the plan which he has put in operation, with the state library as a basis, for the collection and preservation of the state publications, Indiana literature, and duplicate books scattered throughout the state. All such material the state library will gladly receive, paying charges of transportation.\*

The afternoon session was opened with a paper on "A unique library," by George S. Cottman, of Irvington. The library described was the old "Workingmen's library" at New Harmony, Ind., one of the earliest libraries established in the state. This was followed by a series of papers on the library in its relation to other educational forces. Superintendent Elmer C. Jerman, of Decatur county, discussed the "Library and the public schools;" and a paper prepared by Miss Leila Garritt, librarian of Hanover College, "The library and the college," was read by Miss Mary L. E. Jones, of Terre Haute. The keynote of this paper was: "The school gives the preliminary preparation for education, and the library gives the means by which the individual completes and accomplishes his education." She emphasized the value of the library in original investigation or seminary work, the value of the library to the teacher, and the necessity of a good working library in the college. Mrs. H. G. Fetter, of Peru, presented a paper on "The library and the study club," which was really a history of the Peru Public Library. Rev. Albert J. Brown, of the Friends' Church, of Indianapolis, spoke on the relation of the library to the church, and the benefit of close co-operation between these two forces. The papers were heard with interest and fully discussed. At the close of the program the president announced as committee on nominations Miss Mary Dye, of Indianapolis; Miss Mary Jones, of Terre Haute, and Miss Belle Hanna, of Greencastle.

"Library legislation: what we need and how to get it" was the subject that occupied all the Wednesday forenoon session. Miss Merica Hoagland, of Fort Wayne, presented the question from the standpoint of the study club. She reviewed the history of library legislation in Indiana, and pointed out that the state is behind the other states in the library movement. She advocated the establishment of a state library commission appointed by the governor, travelling libraries, and township circulating libraries. J. R. Voris, of Bedford, gave a trustee's views upon the subject. He thought it necessary to convince the people of their need of libraries before they would ask for them. He favored the repeal of all existing

\* For outline of Mr. Henry's plan *see* L. J., Oct., 1898, p. 376.



library laws and the enactment of a new law providing for a state library commission, and county libraries, into which should be merged the city and township libraries now established. The last paper was by Miss Herriott Clare Palmer, of the Franklin High School, who emphasized the importance of the library in educational work. Education is getting away from the text-book into the laboratory and the library. Our school system is making demands upon teacher and student, to be met only by the aid of the library. Miss Palmer advocated the library commission, travelling libraries, and a compulsory library law.

Following the reading of these papers, Mr. Albert Faurot, of Rose Polytechnic Institute, gave his report as chairman of the committee on legislation. The committee had aimed to frame a bill that would give the state a good library system without disturbing existing conditions any more than necessary. The outline of a bill was presented, which was the joint work of the committees from the library association and the Indianapolis Commercial Club, and had been endorsed, with the exception of one clause, by the Indiana Union of Literary Clubs. The outline is as follows:

"First—A public library commission of three members is to be created; the state librarian is to be a member and the secretary; the other two members are to be appointed by the governor, each for a term of four years. Such commissioners are to serve without compensation. The law as to the state library board and the appointment of the state librarian is to remain as at present.

"Second—\$4000 is to be appropriated for the purchase of books and equipment for travelling libraries, which are to be kept separate from the other books of the state library, and are to be loaned to local libraries, literary or other clubs, agricultural or other societies, grange, college, seminary, university extension centre, study circle, or other associations on furnishing satisfactory security and complying with the rules and regulations of the public library commission.

"Third—\$1000 is to be appropriated annually for clerical assistance and other expenses made necessary by the act.

"Fourth—On written petition of five voters the question of a township library shall be submitted to the voters at any township election. If a majority of votes on the question are in favor of the library, a tax of one-fifth of a mill on the dollar is to be levied and collected for such library.

"Fifth—Township library boards are to be established composed of the township trustee and two residents of the township, one of whom shall be a woman, appointed by the county superintendent. Such board shall have charge of the library, and shall serve without compensation."

After some discussion the report of the committee was adopted.

All parties interested have come to a substantial agreement as to the library legislation desired, and will go before the coming session of the legislature with strong hopes of success.

The committee on nominations reported the following as officers for the coming year, who were unanimously elected: President, W. E. Henry, state librarian, Indianapolis; Vice-president, Albert Faurot, Rose Polytechnic Institute, Terre Haute; Secretary, Miss Belle S. Hanna, Public Library, Greencastle; Treasurer, Miss Jessie Allen, Public Library, Indianapolis.

Miss Elizabeth Day Swan, Purdue University Library, La Fayette, was elected a member of the executive board.

Albert Faurot, Terre Haute; Miss E. G.

Browning, Indianapolis; Miss Belle S. Hanna, Greencastle; and W. E. Henry, Indianapolis, were appointed a committee on legislation, after which the association adjourned. The meeting was one of the best ever held. The papers were unusually good, and were listened to with deep interest. Everyone whose name was on the program appeared except two, detained by illness, who sent proxies.

ALBERT FAUROT, *Secretary*.

#### IOWA STATE LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.

*President*: W. H. Johnston, Public Library, Fort Dodge.

*Secretary and Treasurer*: Miss Ella McLoney, Public Library, Des Moines.

#### MAINE LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.

*President*: E. W. Hall, Colby University, Waterville.

*Treasurer*: Prof. G. T. Little, Bowdoin College, Brunswick.

#### MASSACHUSETTS LIBRARY CLUB.

*President*: W. H. Tillinghast, Harvard University Library.

*Secretary*: H. C. Wellman, Public Library, Brookline.

*Treasurer*: Miss Margaret D. McGuffey, Public Library, Boston.

#### MICHIGAN LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.

*President*: H. M. Utley, Public Library, Detroit.

*Secretary*: Mrs. A. F. McDonnell, Bay City.

*Treasurer*: Miss Genevieve M. Walton, Normal College Library, Ypsilanti.

#### MINNESOTA LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.

*President*: Dr. W. W. Folwell, State University, Minneapolis.

*Secretary*: Miss Gratia Countryman, Public Library, Minneapolis.

*Treasurer*: Miss Anne Hammond, Public Library, St. Paul.

The Minnesota State Library Association held its sixth annual meeting at Rochester, Minn., Dec. 14-16. The attendance included many teachers, members of women's clubs, and others interested in library work; it was not large, unless one considers that Minneapolis has but 35 free public libraries, but it was rich in good papers and in inspirational help. The sessions were held in the attractive new library building, recently built at a cost of \$12,000. Miss Emerick, the librarian, and the trustees acted as entertaining and reception committee.

The first session, which was social in its nature, was held on the evening of Dec. 14, and was opened with an address of welcome by Mayor Eaton, of Rochester. Dr. W. W. Folwell, of the University of Minnesota, spoke on "The modern city and some of its needs," and music and an informal reception followed.

On Thursday morning, Dec. 15, the actual business of the conference was opened with a paper by Miss McGraw, of the Mankato Public Library, on "How to develop interest in the library." She emphasized the welcome that the library should extend to all, the need of a sympathetic attitude on the part of the librarian,

the value of special "days," of exhibits, of visits to the schools, and of personal work with teachers. Advertising the library through the local press, by means of lists, bulletins, etc., was also touched upon, and the distribution of leaflets and announcements was useful when funds permitted. "It has been said that a librarian should join clubs and keep up a social life, but most librarians require six hours out of the 24 for sleep. Besides, it is not the librarian but the library that is to be kept before the people."

"The relation of the librarian to the community" was considered in a paper sent by Mrs. Lillian S. Tandy, of Red Wing, who thought that the relation in question depended chiefly upon the relation of the librarian to the library, and that the well-equipped, earnest, and resourceful librarian was the central factor in the library's development. "The library and the clubs" was the subject of an excellent address by Mrs. W. W. Fowler, of Rochester, who urged the library to foster club work by hearty co-operation, by showing no favoritism, by buying books to meet club needs. The need of travelling libraries and the work done by women's clubs in promoting this phase of library activity were also emphasized. An interesting discussion followed, in the course of which Miss Gratia Countryman presented the draft of the travelling library bill proposed for Minnesota and asked the help of the club and of all interested in library work in aiding its passage.

In the afternoon children and schools were considered, the first paper read being by Mrs. A. W. Cooley, primary superintendent of public schools, Minneapolis, on "The teachers' co-operation." Miss Isabel Lawrence, of the St. Cloud Normal School, considered "Children's interest in literature"; Miss Anne Hammond, of St. Paul, sent a capital paper on "The library league"; and Miss Marie Todd, of the Minneapolis Public Library, spoke on "The children's room, how to make it attractive," describing the juvenile departments of the libraries of Cleveland, Buffalo, Albany, Brooklyn, Boston, and Hartford. An animated discussion on phases and methods of work with children followed.

The Thursday evening session was a public meeting and had a large attendance. The chief address was by Dr. J. K. Hosmer, of the Minneapolis Public Library, on "The relation of the novel to the library." There were, he said, two kinds of libraries with which fault can be found: the library well equipped but out of touch with its community, and the library supplied with poor books but with free access to all; there were two corresponding kinds of librarians: one with much knowledge but ignorant of how to use it; the other without solid accomplishments but approachable. The model library and librarian combine the virtues of these two classes. Taking up the subject of the novel, he said that it was a means for the cultivation of the imagination, and that those who deplored the desire for novel-reading were too apt to overlook the fact that there were good novels as well as harmful ones. The novel had a great place to fill in literature and

in life, and when its use is controlled by good judgment and definite limits it can accomplish much good. "The library situation in Minnesota" was described by Miss Countryman, who gave stereopticon views of various libraries, and made an earnest appeal for library legislation.

The Friday morning session was at first given up to business. Officers for the year were elected as follows: President, Dr. W. W. Fowell, University of Minnesota; Vice-president, Isabel Lawrence, St. Cloud; Secretary, Gratia Countryman, Minneapolis; Treasurer, Anne Hammond, St. Paul; Members of executive committee, Dr. J. K. Hosmer and Miss Mary McGraw. Amendments to the constitution were adopted, changing the date of the annual meeting to October, and admitting any one interested in library work to membership in the association. Resolutions of thanks were extended to the local hosts, and resolutions were passed expressing approval of the library legislation proposed and asking that the State Teachers' Association establish a library section.

"Bookbuying for small libraries" was the subject of an excellent paper on "Bookbuying for small libraries," by Miss Neff, of Duluth, who pointed out the importance of keeping book purchases in line with the scope and work of the library. Mrs. L. B. Reed, of Minneapolis, reviewed the "Best books of 1898," and Miss Aikins, of Winona, read a paper on "The librarian's library," recommending the standard library tools and literary periodicals. Dr. Hosmer spoke briefly of the value of such meetings as the present one had proved, and the conference was then adjourned.

#### NEBRASKA LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.

*President:* W. E. Jillson, Doane College, Crete.

*Secretary:* Miss Edith Tobitt, Public Library, Omaha.

*Treasurer:* Miss M. A. O'Brien, Public Library, Omaha.

The fourth annual meeting of the Nebraska Library Association took place at Lincoln, Dec. 27, 1898. Only one session was held, inasmuch as the association is practically an auxiliary of the Nebraska State Teachers' Association, which was in session at the same time and place.

The meeting was held in the library building of the state university, presided over by President W. E. Jillson, and attended by between 20 and 30 members.

The first number on the program was a paper on "The preservation of books," by Miss Alice F. Sherrill, of the Crete Public Library. Miss Sherrill spoke from the standpoint of the small town library whose stock of books is limited and whose resources are still more limited. In this library the necessity of preserving the books, mending them when mutilated, renovating them, and rebinding them at the smallest possible cost is most pressing. They are compelled to buy cheap books whose preservation needs the most attention and cannot afford constant rebinding. Miss Sherrill outlined a num-

ber of simple and inexpensive devices for cleaning and mending books and preventing their destruction. Her detailed explanation of methods of dusting and rejuvenating books ought to prove specially useful.

"The school library" was discussed by President J. A. Beattie, of the State Normal School at Peru, by a well-digested, carefully written paper. He emphasized the necessity of selecting the school library in view of the end for which it is to be used, *i.e.*, for the education of the community in general, in the midst of which it is found, and in particular for the children and youth of the school.

"What can the library do for the women's club?" is a question Miss Annette L. Smiley, of the Omaha Public Library, tried to answer. Her paper was founded particularly upon experience in the library with which she is connected. To make the library most useful it is of primary importance that it be made the workshop not only of the women's club but of study and debating clubs, literary societies, and university extension classes. The library with a lecture-room which can be put at their disposal has one great advantage, by making it the meeting-place of clubs whose members are not regular patrons. The library attracts the attention of people who unconsciously become interested in the books and their contents, and come to take advantage of the privileges offered to book-borrowers. Membership in the study clubs offers a mutual benefit to the librarian and the club. Bibliography, best book lists in history, literature, and art, as well as outlines and club programs filed from previous years, and reading lists clipped from the periodicals, will prove most useful. The Omaha Public Library has been able to set aside in the alcove of a pleasantly arranged reference-room a few carefully selected volumes, withdrawn from circulation, for the exclusive use of the clubs, which are changed from time to time to suit the requirements of the course of study, thus securing in reality a broader use than if each club woman took one of them home on her card. Special privileges in the form of extra cards to club leaders and teachers, and occasional suspension of some obstructive rule, tend to make the relations of the library and club closer. The chief obstacle in the way of complete co-operation is the ignorance of the new member who does not know how to use library appliances, such as catalogs and indexes, and is afraid to ask about them. This should be remedied by frequent library talks, explaining how to use a library.

The answer to the question, "What can the women's club do for the library?" was presented by Mrs. C. F. Stoutenborough, of Plattsburgh, former president of the state federation of women's clubs. Mrs. Stoutenborough answered the question by telling what the women's clubs had already done for libraries not only in the way of patronage and cultivation of the library spirit, but also in providing the means for the foundation of free libraries in various towns and villages which would otherwise have gone without them.

The election of officers resulted as follows: President, W. E. Jillson, Crete; First vice-president, J. I. Wyer, Lincoln; Second vice-president, J. Amos Barrett, Lincoln; Secretary, Edith Tobitt, Omaha; Treasurer, Margaret A. O'Brien, Omaha.

The committee on legislation appointed at the last meeting, consisting of President W. E. Jillson, D. A. Campbell, G. E. MacLean, Edna Bullock, J. C. Pentzer, Edith Tobitt, Mrs. G. M. Lambertson, was continued. After a general discussion it was decided to authorize the committee to prepare a bill for a state library commission, which it is hoped to have passed by the pending legislature.

The executive committee was authorized to extend an invitation to the A. L. A. to meet in Omaha or Lincoln, should the people of either of these two cities take steps to secure the next meeting.

EDITH TOBITT, *Secretary*.

#### NEW HAMPSHIRE LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.

*President*: A. H. Chase, Concord.

*Secretary*: Miss Grace Blanchard, Public Library, Concord.

*Treasurer*: Miss A. E. Pickering, Public Library, Newington.

#### NEW JERSEY LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.

*President*: F. P. Hill, Free Public Library, Newark.

*Secretary*: Miss Clara W. Hunt, Free Public Library, Newark.

*Treasurer*: Miss Cecelia C. Lambert, Public Library, Passaic.

#### NEW YORK LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.

*President*: A. L. Peck, Public Library, Gloversville.

*Secretary*: W. R. Eastman, State Library, Albany.

*Treasurer*: J. N. Wing, Chas. Scribner's Sons, 153 Fifth avenue, New York City.

The New York State Library Association will hold its usual spring meeting on Feb. 15-16, 1899. The sessions of Feb. 15 will be held at Poughkeepsie, in the beautiful new Adriance library building; and on the following day the association will meet in New York in connection with the New York Library Club, joining the latter body in its annual dinner on the evening of Feb. 16.

#### OHIO LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.

*President*: Robinson Locke, Toledo.

*Secretary*: Charles Orr, Case Library, Cleveland.

*Treasurer*: Miss K. W. Sherwood, Public Library, Cincinnati.

#### PENNSYLVANIA LIBRARY CLUB.

*President*: James G. Barnwell, Library Company of Philadelphia.

*Secretary*: Miss Mary P. Farr, Philadelphia Normal School.

*Treasurer*: Miss Jean E. Graffen, Free Library of Philadelphia.

The December meeting of the Pennsylvania Library Club was held in the cataloging-room of the Free Library of Philadelphia. The weather was wretched, and the interest of the

members in the club was shown by the attendance of 50 persons, when it would have been quite justifiable for five only to have attended. Amongst others who were absent was the secretary, whose place was filled by Miss Edith Ridgway.

After the formal business of the evening, Mr. Barnwell called upon Mr. John Thomson to deliver the address of the evening. The subject chosen for discussion was the principal codices of the Bible, and a photographic facsimile of the Alexandrian Codex and the great printed facsimile reprints of the "Vatican and Sinaitic Codices" were exhibited and examined by those present. The speaker traced in detail the discovery of these manuscripts. The "Vatican" manuscript has been in that library from an unknown date, the copy being recorded in the earliest catalog of that library. The story of the presentation to the King of England of the "Alexandrian" was related, and the curious memoranda in Latin and Arabic endorsed on various pages of the manuscript were explained. Mr. Thomson then told the story of Tischendorf's three visits to the Convent of St. Katharine in the Sinaitic peninsula, and the discovery of the great treasure of the library of St. Petersburg in the charge of the house steward of the convent. "How the manuscript was borrowed by Tischendorf and was never returned" formed an interesting story.

The Pennsylvania Library Club held its usual monthly meeting on Monday, Jan. 9. It was held by permission of the trustees of the University of Pennsylvania in their library building, which, including the book-stack and the museum of archæology and palæontology, was by special arrangement thrown open on that evening for inspection from 7.30 to 10.30 p.m. Mr. Stewart Culin, the curator of the museum, kindly attended and showed the visitors through the building and museum. There were 160 persons present and four new members were duly elected.

The principal address of the evening was a talk by Dr. Ernest C. Richardson, of Princeton, on the subject of "University and college libraries." Dr. Richardson has spent so much time in foreign university libraries that he was able to give many interesting particulars of the peculiarities and specialties of many of the most famous libraries of the old world. He gave in detail statistics of the increase in the number of college and university libraries in the United States, and figures were given to show that while the increase in the number of the libraries was remarkable, the increase in the number of volumes in the different libraries was very nearly stupendous. He submitted a series of valuable suggestions for the betterment of college libraries, contrasting the work that had to be accomplished by university libraries with the work expected and due from free public libraries, and dwelt strongly on the necessity of an increasing amount of free access being granted to students and readers desiring to use the books. The methods which prevail in some foreign universities by which books have to be asked for at least 24 hours in ad-

vance was shown to be most injurious to the conduct of reference study. He illustrated his lecture by many interesting anecdotes, and the cordial vote of thanks which was tendered him was amended by a request that he prepare his address for publication in the "Occasional papers" of the club.

Mr. J. G. Rosengarten, one of the trustees of the university and also a trustee of the free library, entertained 20 gentlemen at the University Club before the meeting to meet Dr. Richardson. The guests, among whom were several of the trustees of the university and members of the faculty, together with several Philadelphia librarians, adjourned in a body to the University Library.

#### WESTERN MASSACHUSETTS LIBRARY CLUB.

*President:* C. A. Cutter, Forbes Library, Northampton.

*Secretary:* Miss Alice Shepard, City Library, Springfield.

*Treasurer:* Miss M. M. Robison, Public Library, Amherst.

#### WESTERN PENNSYLVANIA LIBRARY CLUB.

*President:* Miss Helen Sperry, Carnegie Library, Homestead.

*Secretary-Treasurer:* Miss Mary F. Macrum, Carnegie Library, Pittsburgh.

#### VERMONT LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.

*President:* Miss S. C. Hagar, Fletcher Free Library, Burlington.

*Secretary:* Miss M. L. Titcomb, Free Library, Rutland.

*Treasurer:* E. F. Holbrook, Proctor.

#### WISCONSIN LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.

*President:* Dr. E. A. Birge, City Library, Madison.

*Secretary:* Miss Agnes Van Valkenburgh, Public Library, Milwaukee.

*Treasurer:* Miss Maude A. Earley, Public Library, Chippewa Falls.

#### NORTH WISCONSIN TRAVELLING LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.

*President:* Mrs. E. E. Vaughn, Ashland.

*Secretary and Treasurer:* Miss Janet Green, Vaughn Library, Ashland.

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## Library Clubs.

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#### LIBRARY CLUB OF BUFFALO, N. Y.

*President:* H. L. Elmendorf, Public Library.

*Secretary-Treasurer:* Elizabeth D. Renninger, Buffalo Catholic Institute.

#### CHICAGO LIBRARY CLUB.

*President:* H. W. Gates, Hammond Library.

*Secretary:* C. B. Roden, Public Library, Chicago.

*Treasurer:* Miss M. E. Ahern, Public Libraries, 215 Madison street.

The December meeting of the Chicago Library Club was held Thursday evening, Dec. 8, in the assembly-room of Haskell Museum, Chicago University. Zella Allen Dixon, A.M., librarian of the university, delivered an illus-

trated lecture before the club and invited guests on "The library movement of the dark ages." Mrs. Dixon described the various stages of bookmaking, from the papyrus roll to the ponderous tomes of the mediæval monasteries, and showed the development of written language, from the wedge-shaped characters of the Assyrian clay tablet to the wonderful illuminations of the Lindisfarne Gospel and the "beautiful book" of Friar Jerome. Methods of preserving books were also described, and pictures were shown of several ancient collections, of "books in chains," and of numerous other features of the "Library movement of the dark ages." In order that ample time might be placed at Mrs. Dixon's disposal, the club deferred its customary business meeting, and adjournment was taken immediately at the close of the lecture.

C. B. RODEN, *Secretary*.

#### NEW YORK LIBRARY CLUB.

*President:* Arthur E. Bostwick, N. Y. Free Circulating Library.

*Secretary:* Frank Weitenkampf, N. Y. Public Library.

*Treasurer:* Miss Theresa Hitchler, N. Y. Free Circulating Library.

A meeting of the New York Library Club was held on the afternoon of Jan. 12, in the assembly-room of the Boys' High School building, 60 West 13th street, New York. The special subject of discussion was the "Relations between free libraries and public schools," and it attracted a large attendance, including many teachers, principals, and others interested in school work. President Bostwick called the meeting to order at 4 p.m., and several matters of business were first brought up. The resignation of Mr. Idle, owing to absence abroad, was accepted, and Mr. Frank Weitenkampf, of the New York Public Library, was elected secretary for the remainder of the club year. Several new members were also elected.

The subject for discussion was presented in a brief address by Dr. H. M. Leipziger. He said that the public library, first established as a form of philanthropy, had come now to be considered as important as the school itself, and he urged the importance of the library as one of the chief educational agencies that the teacher can wisely use. Indeed, in New York this had long been recognized in the establishment of the system of district school libraries, which for various reasons had fallen into disuse, and it still had recognition in the provision of the state fund of \$50,000, which under direction of the state superintendent is distributed to all the schools for library purposes, on condition that the sum distributed shall be met by an equal sum from the city. All books purchased from this fund must be approved by the state superintendent, and excellent selected lists are provided, giving books for teachers, for scholars, and for supplementary reading, and including many picture-books for the very little children. But the speaker thought that more was needed to make success in the work of school and library than long lists of the best names in literature. What was needed was to create a real

appreciation for books, to wisely guide children's reading, and by careful study of the child know how to wisely guide. The teacher is the person who can best do this, and the use of books in connection with school work should not, if rightly conducted, prove an extra burden upon workers already overburdened, but rather an actual help in the work itself. He thought that the best means of making library and school work rightly together was by having librarians and teachers meet often for the discussion of common problems and the development of the library spirit.

Miss Julia Richman, principal of Grammar School no. 77, spoke on the reading of school-girls as observed by her. Books were received from the travelling libraries department of the N. Y. Free Circulating Library, and the teachers endeavored, so far as possible, to keep careful records of the extent and manner of their use. She asked for more copies of the more popular books, especially of "Little women," and advocated a large number of children reading the same book at the same time, as mutual discussion and interest were thus stimulated. She spoke of the book poverty in most of the poorer homes, of the danger that menaced home ties in educating the children beyond their parents, and thought that in the general home use of books lay the solution of the difficulty. The value of reading aloud at home by the children to their mothers was emphasized, and it was suggested that in issuing books to children the libraries should issue also a blank asking for an expression of opinion regarding the book and leaving space for answers as to whether the book had been read aloud at home, which chapter the listener liked best, etc.

Miss Mary E. Merington followed, and spoke in criticism of the indiscriminate selection of books in the free public libraries. She said that the teacher might carefully select and endeavor to guide the child's reading, but that the child could then promptly go to the free library and draw out any book he chose, so that the teacher's work was undone and the library itself was found the greatest enemy to the helpful use of books—"we speak to the girls of the beauties of literature and the best books, and then they take out from the library an 'Elsie' book, or a Rosa Carey story, or the first average novel." She urged some method of regulating the issue of books to young people, of supervising and limiting their choice, and read from a list of approved Christmas presents offered to its scholars by a leading New York Sunday-school. From this list each child might select three gifts. It opened with the Bible, Hymnal, and Prayer-book; then came "Dora Thorne," "East Lynne," "Faust," "Jane Eyre," "Mill on the Floss," "Wonderful adventures" in many lands, "Tennyson," "Shakespeare's poems," a doll, and a toy. She condemned the flood of twaddle poured out each year in the guise of children's literature, and urged the libraries to keep it off their shelves, saying that it was a crime for the state to put twaddle in circulation, and that in

selecting for a public library the same standards should be followed as in selecting for one's private collection.

Miss Emma Cragin, librarian of the travelling library department of the N. Y. Free Circulating Library, read an account of the work and development of that department, which, in its short existence, has already broadened out into a wide and ever-extending field.

General discussion followed. Dr. Leipziger said that the selection of books for children had had constant thought and attention from librarians, and spoke of the many library devices—special lists, picture-bulletins, etc.—used to guide the reading of young people. Miss Moore told of the children's use of the University Settlement Library; and Mr. Bostwick gave an admirable summary of the matter, saying that the question of excluding from libraries all books that were not "literature" had been long-familiar to librarians, and that there were two definite factions—those who believed in radical library reorganization, giving only the best literature; the others who advocated leaving in most of the popular books, as pleasant stories not especially harmful. The public librarian can be, and generally is, careful in selecting books for schools, but to his general public he cannot deny all books that are twaddle. School Commissioner O'Brien, Miss Foote, of the New York Public Library, Miss Richman and Mr. McDowell, of Newark, also spoke briefly.

It was voted that the club hold its annual dinner on Feb. 16, in connection with the meeting of the New York State Library Association.

#### LIBRARY ASSOCIATION OF WASHINGTON CITY.

*President:* Thorvald Solberg, Registrar of Copyrights.

*Secretary:* W. L. Boyden, Librarian Supreme Council 33° A. A. Order of Scottish Rite.

*Treasurer:* T. L. Cole, Statute Law Book Co.

The 35th regular meeting of the Library Association of Washington City was held Dec. 14, 1898, at the residence of Mr. and Mrs. W. P. Cutter.

The meeting was called to order by President H. C. Bolton, who, upon vote of the association, occupied the chair during the entire evening. The executive committee reported the election to membership of the following persons: Miss Etta Josselyn Griffin, Miss Edith S. Rogers, Mrs. Jessie Peter Wood, and Miss Emily A. Spellman. The president made a brief verbal report of the work accomplished by the society during the past year. The treasurer submitted a report in writing showing a balance in the treasury. The secretary read his report, which partially showed the activity and usefulness of the association; it enumerated nine meetings held during the year, with an average attendance of over 50 persons. Eight original papers on library matters were read to the association, six by members and two by friends. The committee on current events have presented many important and interesting items, and called attention to many books which

might have been overlooked by some to their detriment. The supplement to the handbook of 1897 was issued in April, 1898. The roll of the association numbers 108 persons, an increase of 20 over the last annual report.

The election of officers for 1899 then took place, and resulted as follows: President, Thorvald Solberg, Registrar of Copyrights; Vice-presidents, Miss Josephine A. Clark, assistant librarian, Department of Agriculture, J. C. M. Hansen, chief cataloger, Library of Congress; Secretary, W. L. Boyden, Librarian Supreme Council 33° A. A. Order of Scottish Rite; Treasurer, Theodore L. Cole (re-elected), Statute Law Book Co.; members of executive committee, Miss M. C. Dyer (re-elected), Dr. H. C. Bolton, and F. H. Parsons.

While the election was going on an orchestra gave evidence of its presence by sweet sounds, and as soon as the results were announced the formal meeting adjourned, and dancing was made the special order of business; later, refreshments were served, and thus ended the fifth official year of the association.

F. H. PARSONS, *Secretary.*

### Library Schools and Training Classes.

#### NEW YORK STATE LIBRARY SCHOOL.

##### ADVANCED CATALOGING.

The following outline of the course in advanced cataloging given by Miss Ada Alice Jones may be of interest. This is supplemented by 150 hours of laboratory work in the state library. Five lectures are given by the vice-director on practical matters connected with the organization of the catalog department.

1. Miscellaneous problems: discussion.
- 2-4. Periodicals and works of criticism: lectures and problems.
5. Some annotations for "Selection of reference books for catalogers": dictation.
6. Perkins' "San Francisco cataloging for public libraries": discussion.
7. Comparison of the following points in 10 different codes of catalog rules:
  - Fulness of author's name.
  - Treatment of names of noblemen.
  - Treatment of pseudonyms.
  - Entry for official bureaus, boards, etc.: discussion.
8. Miscellaneous problems: discussion.
9. Comparison continued, as in §7.
  - Form of entry for cities.
  - Form of entry for societies.
  - Cataloging of maps.
  - Cataloging of series: discussion.
10. Miscellaneous problems: discussion.
11. Comparison continued, as in §7.
  - Treatment of anonymous books.
  - Fulness of book-title.
  - Contents and notes.
  - Analysis: discussion.
12. Wheatley's "How to catalog a library": discussion.

13. Amer. Lib. Assoc., "Condensed rules for an author and title catalog": lecture and discussion.
  14. Comparison of the cataloging rules of the American Library Association, Library Association of the United Kingdom, Bodleian Library: discussion.
  - 15-16. Cataloging rules of the British Museum: lecture and discussion.
  17. Some continental methods: old books: lecture.
  18. Some government documents: lecture.
- Cutter's "Rules for a dictionary catalogue" is used as a text-book in the courses in elementary and advanced dictionary cataloging. "Library school card catalog rules" is the text-book used in the courses in elementary and advanced cataloging.

## SOCIAL.

The holiday recess was ushered in by a delightful reception arranged by Miss Ada Alice Jones and Mr. Robert K. Shaw, in honor of our soldiers, two of whom have just returned from Honolulu. The reception was held in 31, the old library school-room. There was a full attendance from the library staff. The director, heads of departments, catalogers, pages, elevator men, janitors, porters, and cleaners met for the first time at a social gathering, moved by a common impulse of patriotism. Speeches were made by Mr. Dewey, by four of the soldiers, two from the library staff and one each from the classes of '99 and 1900, by Miss Windeyer and by Mr. George Champlin. Selected poems read by Mr. Dewey and by Miss Grace Frost and original poems by Miss Mary F. Williams, class of '99, and by Godfrey Dewey, were heartily applauded.

A pleasant excitement was caused just before Christmas by the presentation to each member of the senior class of a book of photographs, a most artistic souvenir of the Hallowe'en festivities at the Forbes manor house. The photographer and printer and giver of the little books is Miss Jenny Lind Christman, class of '93.

A series of subscription dances in Girls' Academy, arranged by Miss Ada Alice Jones, are very popular.

SALOME CUTLER FAIRCHILD.

## UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS STATE LIBRARY SCHOOL.

## SPECIAL COURSE.

THIS year a course on the use of the library was offered to all students in the university, and was entirely independent of the courses in the library school.

Its object was to help students in the different colleges to help themselves in using the library. It comprised lessons on the classification, the card catalog, general periodical indexes, technical and special indexes, encyclopædias, dictionaries, handbooks of history, geography, and biography, handbooks of general information, book and periodical buying, bookbinding and repair.

The scope of the work and the size of the

class made recitations impracticable. Students were tested by written work altogether. After each lesson a list of questions was given to the students to answer before the next lesson, and these answers could only be found by actually examining the books which had been explained. The term examination tested the ability of the student to use the library aids, and it ensured individual work. Each student was asked to select a subject of interest to himself, then to find five periodical references on the subject, giving name of periodical, date, volume, and pages; to find five books on the subject, giving author, title, publisher, and price; to find if these periodical articles and books were in the university library; if they were, to explain the meaning of the call numbers given on the catalog cards; if they were not in the library, to assign to them probable call numbers (limited to three figures), using the Dewey decimal classification. Students were allowed to work at their convenience during three days, and the results were very satisfactory.

The class met once a week and the course counted for one-fifth credit, which required two hours' preparation on each lesson. Many students petitioned the council for permission to take the course in addition to the full number of credits allowed, but it was thought unwise in the interests of the students and of the course. If it had not counted for a credit there would have been a much larger attendance, but it might not have been regular, and no individual work could have been required.

The interest manifested in the course was very gratifying, and the results have been plainly seen in the use of the library.

## LOCAL PUBLIC LIBRARY WORK.

Beginning in January, the library school of the university will open the Urbana Public Library each afternoon during ten months of the year.

The library in Urbana numbers over 8000 volumes, but it has been closed to the public during the day because of inadequate funds for help. The director of the library school, wishing to secure public library experience as a regular part of the course, offered the services of the school to the library board, and the offer was accepted. The work will be considered a senior privilege. The plan is to open the library from 3 to 6 each day, with two seniors in charge. Each one will give two hours a day, so that there will be two on duty at the busy hour at the close of the public schools. Each senior will be on duty one month at least, and the terms of service will overlap, so that one experienced person will always be in attendance.

The students will have entire charge at this time, although they will serve under the direction of the librarian of the public library, who is very progressive, and who sympathizes heartily with the plan of co-operation.

The opportunity is an exceptional one for the library school, and it is believed that it will be much appreciated by the patrons of the library.

## Library Economy and History.

### GENERAL.

FIELD, Herbert Haviland. The work of the Concilium Bibliographicum. In *American Naturalist*, December, 1898. 32: 925-928.)

Describes the present condition of the work. "In order to facilitate relations with the United States, Mr. Edward S. Field, of 80 Leonard street, New York, has been authorized to receive subscriptions. A large number of descriptive circulars will be deposited in his office and may be had on application."

GRIFFITH, George. A course of reading for children. (In *Educational Review*, January, 1899. 17: 65-69.)

Describes an experiment in the public schools of Utica, N. Y., showing the relative popularity of a selected list of books read by the pupils out of school.

UNIVERSITY LIBRARIES. Gilman, Daniel Coit. University problems in the United States. New York, The Century Co., 1898. 319 p. O. \$2.

Pages 237-261 contain President Gilman's address on "University libraries," at the opening of the Sage Library of Cornell University, Oct. 7, 1891.

### LOCAL.

*Alameda (Cal.) F. L.* In the latter part of December a movement was begun by several citizens to bring suit against the library trustees, under whom J. W. Harbourn served as librarian, for the recovery of the amount of the librarian's defalcation, said to reach about \$2300. It is alleged that, as the librarian was appointed by and acted for the trustees, they are responsible for his shortcomings, and also that the business of the board was not properly conducted. A week or so previous to the proposal to sue the board, word was received from Harbourn, who has taken up promising mining claims in the Klondike, and who offers to make good all shortages within a year.

*Atlanta, Ga.* In the mayor's message, presented Jan. 2, the library needs of the city are touched upon in these words: "In close connection with the public schools come the results produced by a circulating public library. It is my earnest hope that the time may soon come when a free circulating library may add to the educational opportunities and happiness of all the people of our city." This is looked upon as indicating rapid development for the Young Men's Library and its possible support by the city as a free library. Such an arrangement was urged in the last report of the librarian, and sentiment in this direction has been steadily growing.

*Bloomington, Ill.* Withers P. L. Saturday, Dec. 17, was celebrated as "library day" at the Withers Public Library, and the success of

the experiment was immediate and complete. The celebration took the form of an informal public reception, extending from 9 a.m. to 9 p.m., an exhibit of Madonna and Christ-child pictures, and a display of 200 new books. The building was lavishly decorated with evergreens and holly, and the Christmas season was made apparent in many ways. In the evening the boy choir of St. Matthew's Church sang Christmas carols. There was an attendance of at least 2500 visitors during the day, and their enjoyment of the occasion was manifest. So much interest was shown in the picture exhibit that it was continued over three days. The decorations were left in place during the holidays.

*Brooklyn (N. Y.) P. L.* The library has been obliged to vacate its temporary quarters in the old public school building no. 3, as the rooms there occupied have been required by the board of education for other purposes. Shorter notice was given than had been expected, and the library was considerably embarrassed by the necessity for immediate removal. It has secured temporary accommodation on the upper floor of a building owned by C. H. Cooper, at the corner of Bedford avenue and Fulton street. A committee to consider and report on available sites has been appointed.

At a recent meeting of the board the establishment of branch libraries was recommended; one in the Eastern District, to be known as the northern branch; one in the 26th ward, to be known as the eastern branch; one in South Brooklyn, to be known as the southern branch; and one in the central part of the city, to be known as the central branch. Two of the branches will probably soon be started. The library managers have these and other plans that they hope to carry out by means of the city appropriation of \$40,000 awarded for 1899. It is expected to use this money as follows: For the maintenance of the Bedford Public Library (the central library), \$15,000; for the maintenance of the Eastern District Free Library, \$15,000; for the maintenance of the Bedford Park Library, at 185 Brooklyn avenue, \$2000; for the maintenance of the East New York Free Library (Fortnightly Club), \$4000; for the maintenance of the South Brooklyn Library, \$4000. It is stated that "of the \$15,000 appropriated for the Bedford avenue library but a small proportion will go for salaries, and this is true of all the libraries."

*Buffalo, N. Y.* Grosvenor P. L. This public reference library was established by the will of Seth Grosvenor, of New York, in 1859, and, like most endowed libraries, has had to struggle along on a meagre income. In 1897 the small allowance previously received from the city to meet running expenses was largely augmented, and in 1898 a further increase, to about \$24,000 a year, was secured. With this income the library has recently been making a rapid growth. Some time ago it became evident that the fixed shelf numbers formerly used here must be replaced by an expansive system, and after a careful study the Dewey decimal system was



adopted. A large force of catalogers has now been put to work and the reclassification of the library is being pushed to completion as rapidly as possible. Another interesting feature of the work at the Grosvenor Library is the opening of a room devoted to the medical department, in which the profession in Buffalo has shown its interest by sending large and valuable donations. In return for this the library has prepared a printed catalog of its medical books, which now number over 3400 volumes. With a little attention the library will soon secure an excellent medical department with a small expenditure of money. Special work is being undertaken in several other departments, where it is hoped the results will be as gratifying.

*Butte (Mont.) F. P. L.* During November of each year, beginning with 1896, an attempt has been made to determine the relative use made of the library by adults and by young people. In November, 1896, the total number of books drawn for home use was 6314; while the number drawn in November, 1898, was 7679, an increase of 21 and 69-100 per cent. But the increase of adult reading was from 4082 to 4262, or 2 and 85-100 per cent.; while that of juvenile reading was from 2232 to 3477, an increase of 55 and 79-100 per cent. Further, the percentage of fiction drawn by the young people has each year been from 2 to 4 per cent. smaller than that drawn by adults. These statistics, with lists of the books drawn on the day before Thanksgiving by adults and young people, were fully given in the local papers early in December, with comparative comments. Indeed, the library is kept constantly before the public by means of short descriptive articles, reviews of new books, and similar contributions from Mr. Davies, the librarian, and its increased use may be largely attributed to his constant efforts, made under difficult conditions.

*Hartford, Ct. Watkinson L.* (35th rpt.) Added 1300; total 49,402. No detailed statistics of use are given, but the chief accessions are noted, and the work of the library is reviewed. The department of architecture, as enlarged according to the suggestions of Prof. A. D. F. Hamlin, has proved most satisfactory. Several exhibitions were held during the year, one illustrating early English literature, another on later English literature, and a picture exhibit on Reynolds and Gainsborough. Mr. Gay concludes: "The question has been asked, 'Is this library in line with the public?' The true answer would be a paradox—it is, and it is not. Students know it and use it. A day or two ago in less than one hour the following topics were looked up for inquirers: Original Sanskrit text of the Rig-Veda; How did Shakespeare's works first appear, and are there any manuscripts; Original Mother Goose; Character of Electra as treated by Æschylus, Sophocles, and Euripides; Sir Joshua Reynolds and his work; Anglo-Saxon plant names; physical culture among the Romans; dye woods of southern Mexico. It may not, however, be in line with a public which desires only compends, not au-

thorities. But such a collection, discriminating, costly, exclusive if you please, while freely open to all, is certainly justified in such a city as Hartford."

*Holden, Mass. Gale F. L.* The 10th annual anniversary of the opening of the library was observed on Jan. 2.

*Hoopeston (Ill.) P. L.* The library, which was opened on Nov. 23, 1898, is the result of the efforts of the Mary H. Catherwood Club, which raised \$500 and 500 books, and secured municipal support for the proposed library. It now contains 1100 v. and 125 periodicals, and is located in pleasant rooms in the city hall.

*Louisville, Ky. Polytechnic Soc. L.* The city council on Dec. 20 defeated the movement to have the Polytechnic library conducted as a free municipal institution by unanimously rejecting the contract submitted by the society. The contract provided that the Polytechnic Society was to give the city the free use of its library for five years beginning Jan. 1, 1899, and was to establish two reading-rooms. The society was to guarantee that its circulating library should contain at least 30,000 volumes, and that the whole library should contain at least 50,000 volumes. In return for this the city was to levy two cents on each \$100 worth of property, the money to be used by the society in purchasing the books for the library.

After reviewing the contract the council decided that the city would obtain no permanent benefits from such an arrangement. It was pointed out that a two-cent tax would amount in five years to at least \$125,000. The society would be enriched by about \$100,000 worth of books, and at the end of the five years the city would have nothing except the use its citizens had had of the library for five years. The library would still belong absolutely to the society, and the new books bought with the city's money would also be the society's property. It was suggested by one of the councilmen that "the proper way to start a library is to either buy one outright or set a certain sum of money aside each year until such time as a large amount will be on hand with which to purchase a building and to fill it with books. Then we would have something which would be ours and which we could point out as the city's property, and not as a rented property."

*Lynn (Mass.) P. L.* On the night of Dec. 13 the severe cold cracked three of the large eight-ton foundation-stones for the pillars of the new library building. A loss of several hundred dollars will be entailed, as the stones must be replaced, and this will necessitate the removal of the pillars.

*Maine, libraries of.* Mr. H. W. Denio contributes to the Lewiston (Me.) *Saturday Journal* of Dec. 3, 1898, an excellent historical sketch of "The libraries of Maine." It outlines the library development of the state through private associations, free public libraries, district libraries, county law and school libraries, and state aid; special attention is given to an historical and descriptive record of the state library. The

modern tendency to regard libraries as integral elements of public education has, Mr. Denio points out, "been manifested in the state of Maine by the earlier legislation of Massachusetts, when Maine formed a part of that state, and by the legislation of Maine itself throughout its history. Protection and encouragement have been given alike in this legislation to private and public library corporations, to the libraries in the public institutions, and to those belonging to the state."

*Massillon, O. McClymonds P. L.* The library was opened to the public for inspection on Jan. 2, when an informal reception and exercises were held in the evening, and the routine work of circulation, etc., was begun on Jan. 3. There is an attractive children's room, and the entire building is excellently equipped for good work. It has cost nearly \$50,000, and is the gift of J. W. McClymonds and the late James Harsh.

*Michigan travelling libraries.* The Michigan State Library bulletin no. 3, November, 1898, is devoted to a history of the travelling library system in the state since it was established by law in February, 1895, in the form of short reports and tables from the librarians in charge. In the introduction it is pointed out that Michigan was the second state to take up the work.

The travelling library depositories in the state number 131, divided chiefly between granges, study clubs, and taxpayers, but including reading clubs, farmers' clubs, Christian Endeavor societies, the Y. M. C. A., the Epworth League, and the Soldiers' Home. They have received 365 libraries. The circulation of the 47 libraries from May, 1895, through June, 1898, was about 33,000, the number of readers about 5000. Out of the 50 books in each library from 12 to 15 are fiction, and these have had a circulation of 17,542 out of a total of 32,969. The bulletin contains a list of the 24 associate libraries in the state.

*Montana State Hist. Soc. L.* The annual report of the librarian, Mrs. Laura E. Howey, was submitted to the governor on Dec. 12. The report opens with a treatise on state historical societies and libraries, reviewing their work in older states in the east, their purposes, and what may be expected of them in the future. A brief sketch of the Montana society is given, and special attention is paid to its publications, the issue of a third volume being recommended. There are now about 12,000 v. in the library, chiefly government documents, and the importance of extending its use is urged. Citizens in any part of the state are asked to come to it for information; "editors, writers for literary clubs, reading circles, debating societies, and kindred organizations, as well as the citizen at home, the pupil in school, the teacher, all classes should write to this institution." The issue of descriptive bulletins is strongly recommended.

*New Orleans. Fisk and P. L.* An interesting exhibit was recently held in the gallery of the library, displaying a collection of drawings made by the pupils of the public schools in

New Orleans and other cities. The work ranged from kindergarten contributions to examples from Tulane University and other colleges.

*New Orleans, La. Howard Memorial L.* At the recent annual meeting the following report of the librarian for the year ending Nov. 30, 1898, was presented: Added 1071; total not given. Books issued (lib. use) 19,191; no. visitors 23,951. There are 85 periodicals received. "The Louisiana Travelling Library Association has lent to five communities collections of books which have been much appreciated. Several applications have been received for the use of these libraries in the ensuing season."

*N. Y. F. C. L.* The library is now sending out "home libraries," containing from 10 to 15 books each, to tenement-houses in the city. In each case one of the children of the family to which the box is sent acts as librarian and gathers a "membership" of five or six other children. A visitor is sent once a week on the day when the books are given out to talk to the children about them, and, if possible, to lead them to read still better ones. These visitors having so small a number of children to deal with at one time, have more opportunity for personal work than would be possible with larger numbers. The children feel an ownership in the library, and the small librarian who is entrusted with the key and the care of the statistics feels as much pride and responsibility as if the library numbered 20,000 volumes. The children have been allowed to name the libraries, and it may be clearly seen that neither patriotism nor knowledge of current events is lacking among them, for out of the six libraries three are named after heroes of the late war with Spain—Dewey, Hobson, and Sampson. Of the remaining three, two were named for Washington and Lincoln, and the other is the Longfellow Home Library. The librarian in charge of that chose the name because, as he said, he thought it was right and proper to name a library after a man who wrote books.

The work done in this direction has, of course, been only a small beginning. The names of the families supplied in this way were obtained from two churches in the city, but now the co-operation of the various "settlements" has been enlisted, and through them the library hopes to be able to reach widely separated parts of the city.

*New York, University Settlement.* The removal of the University Settlement from 26 Delancey street to its new building at Rivington and Eldridge streets was begun on Dec. 28. This building, which is a five-story structure, was begun last June. It contains in the basement gymnasium and baths; on the first floor is the kindergarten and the offices of the Provident Loan Association; on the second a large assembly-room and the library find place; the third floor is given to class-rooms, etc., while the rest of the building is taken up by rooms for the residents and servants. On the roof is a playground for children.

*Newark (N. J.) F. P. L.* The library has recently added a collection of the directories of 50 cities, which are placed in the study-room adjacent to the reference department. A special circular has been issued calling the attention of business men and manufacturers to the collection, and suggesting that it may prove of value in making up lists of possible customers in distant cities. At the request of several local Polish societies, a collection of about 150 works in the Polish language has been made. These are cataloged both in Polish and in English, and they have been in constant circulation.

Early in the year the library will establish a travelling library system for the schools; six of these libraries have been arranged for, of which four will go to grammar schools and two to the high school. Each library will contain about 50 books, and will be accompanied by special lists, made as attractive as possible.

*Niagara Falls (N. Y.) P. L.* The Niagara Falls Public Library can trace its ancestry back to 1814, when an association of citizens started what was called the Grand Niagara Library with 40 books, Hume's "History of England" and Gibbon's "Rome" being among the number. At a meeting held November 23, 1838, a tax of \$2000 was voted for the purchase of books for a district library. This was the beginning of an institution which has been perpetuated for 50 years. February 1, 1895, the District School Library ceased and the Niagara Falls Public Library, under the new charter, opened its doors. The library has fallen heir to books from different sources. In 1897 the old Suspension Bridge District School Library No. 2 disintegrated and about 500 volumes found a home on our shelves. During the same year the Y. M. C. A. disbanded, and the library became richer by their gift of 300 books. From these was formed the small collection of Book rarities and the old English and French law books. Much interest has been shown by individual donations, the Porter collection being the most valuable gift. An annual "book day" has been observed, when the library puts on holiday attire and especially welcomes the citizens, who come with a god-speed and donations of books. This has proved a special feature, creating an interest and at the same time adding materially to the number of books. February 1, the birthday of the library, is also "book day." In June, 1898, the library was moved from its old home on the third floor of the Arcade building to more commodious quarters on the first floor of the same building. It now occupies two large rooms, gaining by this means a reading and reference room. The patronage is rapidly increasing from a circulation of 12,501 books the first year to 35,012 the third year. The library now contains over 5000 volumes. It is also the home of the Niagara Frontier Historical Society. — *From "Historical sketch" in Niagara P. L. Finding-list.*

*Normal (Ill.) L. A.* The Normal and Bloomington Division of the Bloomington City Railway was on Dec. 17 placed under the temporary management of the Normal Library Association

and the receipts donated to the library. The ladies of Normal took charge of the line for the day, assisted by ladies of Bloomington. Each car had a chaperone and two conductors, the crews working in reliefs of two hours and 40 minutes each. The conductors wore natty uniforms. The Illinois State Normal School closed for the holidays on Dec. 16, and a large proportion of the passengers were students on their way home. The receipts added between \$150 and \$200 to the library fund.

*North Carolina State L., Raleigh.* (Biennial rpt. — two years ending Dec. 31, '98.) Added 2267, exclusive of magazines and newspapers, a decrease of 149 vols. from the number added during the two years ending Dec. 31, '96. The library completes its files of newspapers and binds them substantially; distributes and sells the colonial and state records; and issues books for home use to state officers, teachers in the various educational institutions of the city, and persons holding permits. Within the period covered by the report bound copies of newspapers and U. S. documents have been rearranged and made more accessible. The librarian recommends that the library be recataloged and the card system introduced. The wording, arrangement, and recommendations of his report are almost identical with those of the biennial report for the two years ending Dec. 31, '96, which was submitted by his predecessor; but an original departure has been made in the substitution of the adjective "regular" for its adverbial cousin papers "taken regular," being urged to "send regular."

*Omaha (Neb.) P. L.* Statistics for the work of the library during 1898 make the following showing: Added 2336; total 48,646; issued home use 183,334; ref. use 37,067; new cards issued 4698; cards in use 13,466; visitors to reading-room 52,104.

The home use of the library shows a decrease of over 3000 as compared with 1897, a result attributed in good measure to the interests awakened by the Trans-Mississippi Exposition. The attendance at the reference-room and the Byron Reed collection showed a gain over the preceding year. A system of travelling libraries for school use has been planned and will be adopted early in the year.

*Oregon State L., Olympia.* The financial report of state librarian Herbert Bashford was filed with the secretary of state in December. The report, which covers two years, shows that during that period 1425 v. have been added to the library, the total being now 24,645. The law department has been reclassified by the Cutter system, and the general department is being arranged according to the D. C. More space and more money for books are needed.

*Oshkosh (Wis.) P. L.* On Dec. 22 the city authorities accepted the plans submitted by William Waters for the library building to be erected with the Harris bequest and its supplementary funds. The building is to cost \$50,000. No plans have been published, but

the exterior view, as shown in the local papers, depicts a massive and ornate structure, with Ionic portico and circular dome, apparently more adapted to a city hall than a library. It will have a stack-room with a book capacity of 70,000 v.

*Pontiac, Mich.* *Stout L.* The handsome building given to the Ladies' Library Association by the late Byron G. Stout was opened to the public Nov. 30, when a large reception was held.

*Providence, R. I.* At a meeting of the Unitarian Club, on the evening of Jan. 9, the subject, "The aims and opportunities of libraries," was discussed by W. C. Lane, of Harvard; H. L. Koopman, of Brown University Library; W. E. Foster, of the Providence Public Library, and J. L. Harrison, of the Providence Athenæum; George Parker Winship, librarian of the John Carter Brown collection, also spoke briefly, and a letter was read from Reuben A. Guild, ex-librarian of Brown University.

*Washington (D. C.) P. L.* The first annual report of the trustees of the public library was submitted to the District Commissioners on Dec. 2, 1898. It recites the details of establishing and organizing the library, in accordance with the act of June 3, 1896, and reviews the progress that has been made since the appropriation of money for expenses, awarded in June, 1898, made it possible for actual work to be carried on. "The books constituting the present library are entirely private donations. There are now on the shelves 15,000 v., and the number is increasing every day. The largest single donation is the collection of the incorporated Washington City Free Library, which transferred to the commissioners all its books.

"There is a possibility that legislation may be secured from Congress which will turn over to the library the miscellaneous books not necessary for reference and official use in the departmental libraries. These number between 20,000 and 30,000 volumes. Their withdrawal from the 300,000 volumes of the departmental libraries will not injure the latter as technical reference collections for official use, but would cause the Washington Public Library to become a general departmental library for the enjoyment of all the clerks in all the departments. These books, accessible in the main only to the clerks in three of the departments, and accessible to them only so far as the fraction contained in their own library is concerned, would, if collected in the Washington Public Library, be opened to all the clerks, and a great body of government employes would enjoy privileges of which they are now entirely deprived.

"There is also a possibility of securing the use, for circulating purposes, of some of the duplicates, copyrighted or uncopyrighted, in the Library of Congress. The creation of a circulating department of the latter library has been forcibly urged in Congress, but has also met with determined opposition. A compromise between these conflicting views of the true functions of the Library of Congress may re-

sult in the popular circulating use of some of these books through their loan to the Washington Public Library."

The need of an adequate library building is presented, and legislation to that end is recommended. An estimate of expenses for 1899 is submitted, amounting to \$16,280, of which \$8000 is for books and periodicals.

*Wisconsin State Hist. Soc. L.* The annual meeting of the society, held Dec. 8, though known officially as the 46th, was actually the 50th since its organization, Jan. 30, 1849. The president in his address called attention to the enormous growth of the library in the past 25 years—20,000 volumes then, and 200,000 now; also of its greater use, its rooms now being used daily by students and professional men not only from Wisconsin but from many neighboring states, and from eastern universities. Secretary Thwaites presented his annual report, which was, as usual, a full record and review of the year's work. The accessions to the library were stated as 6960 books and pamphlets, giving a present total of 198,895. The annotated catalog of newspapers was announced for early publication, probably by January. The society's files of newspapers now number 10,000 bound volumes, ranking next in extent to that of the Library of Congress. The library is being classified and shelf-listed, on the Cutter system, preparatory to removal. It is recommended that the Historical and University libraries carefully differentiate their lines of book purchases, hereafter, so as to not waste money in duplication.

Speaking of the new building now in progress, the secretary points out that it will be necessary for the building commission to apply to the legislature during the forthcoming session for an additional appropriation with which to complete, equip, and furnish the structure for occupancy. One of the most embarrassing circumstances confronting the commission has been the manner in which it has received its funds—an annual allowance of \$60,000 extending through a series of years. To build by piecemeal, as the money came in, of course would have been ruinously expensive and unsatisfactory; the legislature intended that the commission should at once erect the building, to this end granting it privilege to borrow from the state trust funds, in anticipation of its income. This method, however, involves the commission in the payment of interest to the state of nearly \$40,000 upon the money already voted, which serves to reduce the total appropriation by that amount. The heavy interest account, the quite unexpected cost of the structure as planned by the architects, and several large and unanticipated extras are the chief causes of the embarrassments which have all along confronted the commission, and for which it will be obliged, though unwillingly, to seek legislative relief. "There is every reason to believe, however, that the legislature, after a careful survey of the situation, will cheerfully meet the inevitable, and enable the commission properly to complete its task."

## FOREIGN.

*Bibliothèque Nationale, Paris.* The Bibliothèque Nationale is to be very considerably enlarged by the utilization of the piece of waste ground bordering on the Rue Vivienne. The buildings on the site were pulled down about fifteen years ago to lessen the risk of fire. It is estimated that from first to last the new buildings, when completed in 1901, will have cost the French government 7,500,000 francs.

*London L.* On Dec. 5 the library was formally opened in its reconstructed, rearranged and beautified building. The *Times* says: "The large, new room was crowded with a very distinguished gathering of people, come to listen while the Bishop of London, the Commander-in-Chief, Mr. Lecky, and others exchanged greetings with the president and assured each other and the meeting of the excellent way in which the London Library had fulfilled, and would fulfil, its high functions. The London Library has long been so successful, has so thoroughly proved its own necessity, that it was positively driven to rebuild its premises. Not, as Mr. Leslie Stephen said, from any 'unhallowed lust for bricks and mortar,' and still less from any desire to improve the architecture of London, but from sheer necessity was the committee forced to build. The members, however, decided to rebuild on the old site, and the work has been now done. The transformation is complete, and far more satisfactory than could have been expected. The books, which formerly crammed passages, garrets, and pantries, have now found proper shelf-room in accessible places; the latest methods of arrangement approved by the Library Association have been put in practice; everything is readily under the reader's hand; the reading-room accommodation is excellent; and, in a word, the London Library is at last properly housed."

The *Spectator* for Dec. 10, 1898, contained an appreciative and critical article on the management of the London Library.

*Sydney, N. S. W. P. L. of New South Wales.* Announcement has been made by Mr. David Scott Mitchell, of Sydney, of his intention to bequeath his library of 30,000 v. to the Public Library of New South Wales. The gift is made on condition that the government provide appropriate accommodation for the collection in a wing of the national library, to be known as the "Mitchell library," and to be kept always intact and distinct. This condition has been accepted, and it is stated that a new building will be erected, as there is no room for the collection in the present building. A new building is much needed, and if built will probably be planned to meet the needs of the future and to be a fitting home for the national library. The Mitchell collection is extremely valuable in its wealth of Australian literature. It contains original journals, manuscripts, autograph letters, rare maps and engravings relating to all the colonies, and the oldest Australian newspapers and gazettes; many of the books and autographs were formerly owned by the late Sir Henry Parkes. The collection is valued at about £100,000.

## Gifts and Bequests.

*Alfred, Me.* Early in December it was announced that a public library building would be erected and given to the town by Rev. John Parsons, of Brookline, Mass., and Charles H. Parsons, of New York. The building will be a memorial to the brother of the givers, the late Edwin Parsons, of Savannah.

*Amesbury (Mass.) P. L.* By the will of the late Miss Mary A. Barnard, the library is bequeathed the sum of \$10,000, "the income only to be used for the purchase of books and defraying the expenses of maintaining the library."

*Boston P. L.* An interesting collection of Stevensoniana, consisting of the original blocks of woodcuts with which Stevenson illustrated a set of chap-books prepared by himself and Lloyd Osbourne while at a Swiss health resort, has been given to the library by Mrs. Stevenson through Lloyd Osbourne, Stevenson's stepson and collaborator. The little chap-books were printed in 1881, while Stevenson and Osbourne were in Davos-Platz. The books are extremely rare, not being found in the British Museum. The only complete set is the property of Mrs. Charles Fairchild, of Boston. Facsimile impressions of the blocks were used in the Bonus volume of the "Edinburgh edition" of Stevenson's works. The cuts are now in the possession of Constable & Co., the Edinburgh printers, who are printing from them a limited number of copies for certain subscribers on the condition that when the work is completed the blocks shall be handed to a public institution, which shall pledge itself never to permit their use again. This condition has been accepted by the library.

Another interesting gift recently made to the library is a collection of letters and papers of William Lloyd Garrison, presented by his sons, and being a part of the manuscript collection upon which Garrison's biography was based. The manuscripts are an addition to a similar gift made in 1895, and cover the years 1839-1842; they comprise nearly 500 pieces, most of which are autograph letters relating to the anti-slavery movement. With the manuscripts have been given two sets of the biography, to be used for reference and to assist in indexing the papers.

*Philadelphia F. L.* The library has received from Mr. P. A. B. Widener a remarkable collection illustrative of the history of printing, formed by a European collector, and purchased *en bloc* from its original owner. The collection consists of 500 works printed prior to the year 1501, and includes notable examples from the presses of Italy, Holland, France, and Germany. Over 50 of the volumes acquired were printed previous to any issued from Caxton's press, and many of the works have been secured from presses which, so far as is known, never issued more than one or two books. The special feature of the collection is that a large percentage of the books have been acquired and retained in their original bindings. Many

are of quite exceptional rarity, quite apart from their bibliographical value. Among these may be mentioned the first Greek lexicon of Suidos, printed at Milan in 1498, and the Lactantius of 1475, being the only known copy of the particular press by which it was produced; "Lombard on the sentences," printed by Eggestein about 1472; the first octavo edition of the Latin Bible by Froben in 1491, known as the "Poor man's Bible"; an edition of St. Thomas Aquinas in four volumes, which was evidently a chained copy; two of the five books printed in Greek capital letters in the 15th century; and a Latin Bible printed in Lyons in 1479, regarded as the rarest of the Latin Bible editions. The presses of Paris are in the whole represented by 20 specimens of different printers, and of some 20 of the works copies are not to be found in the British Museum. The collection will ultimately be preserved in the house given to the library by Mr. Widener, which is to be known as the Josephine Widener Memorial Branch of the Free Library.

*Upton, Mass.* By the will of the late Frederick Knowlton, of Brooklyn, N. Y., the sum of \$40,000 is left to the town of Upton for the establishment of a free library.

*Washington (D. C.) P. L.* On Jan. 12 Andrew Carnegie offered to give \$250,000, to be used in the construction of a building for the library, on condition that Congress furnish a suitable site and maintain the library after its establishment.

### Practical Notes.

**BOOK-REST.** (Described in the *Official Gazette* of the U. S. Patent Office, Dec. 20, 1898. 85: 1864.)

This book-rest is claimed to be automatically adjustable.

**FELDMANN'S NEWSPAPER FILE.** William Feldmann, 90 Market St., Chicago, has recently put upon the market a new device for filing newspapers in reading-rooms. It is called "Feldmann's perfection holder," and consists of a light wooden bar, square edged, fitted with a wire rod, the paper being inserted between the two, caught by two pins in the rod, and secured by a spring catch. It holds the papers flat and level, is light, and easily handled.

**WALES' IMPROVED BOOKBINDING.** The method of bookbinding devised and patented by J. Rufus Wales, of Marlboro, Mass., possesses special qualifications for library use. It consists in the use of light linen or other suitable material, cut one inch wider than the book is thick on each side, through which the tapes are drawn, thus preventing the danger of the book separating from the back stay; this material is then slit into equal sections on each side, the top, bottom, and middle sections being secured to the outside flyleaves on both sides, and the remaining sections, with the tapes drawn

through, being secured to the outside of the thin board cover. The usual cover is then made and applied. In this way a complete hinge the whole length of the book on both sides is secured, and the loosening or removal of the covers is made almost impossible. Mr. Wales' plan has been approved by Mr. A. L. Peck, librarian of the Gloversville (N. Y.) Public Library, and Dr. G. E. Wire, of Worcester, Mass., and its merits for books receiving hard and constant usage seem apparent.

### Librarians.

**BAILEY, Arthur Low, B. L. S., N. Y. State Library School, class of '98,** has been appointed assistant in the accession department of N. Y. State Library.

**BARNUM, Mrs. Adele B.,** was on Jan. 2 elected librarian of the Niagara Falls (N. Y.) Public Library, succeeding N. L. Benham, superintendent of schools, resigned. Mrs. Barnum has been for some years assistant librarian.

**BASHFORD, Herbert,** state librarian of Washington, has published, through the Ray & Whittaker Co., of San Francisco, a little volume of "Songs from Puget Sea." Many of the verses there contained were first contributed to the *Critic*, *Overland Monthly*, *Independent*, *Midland Monthly*, and other periodicals.

**BIERSTADT, Oscar,** formerly connected with the Astor Library, has been appointed custodian of Bates Hall of the Boston Public Library, succeeding the late A. M. Knapp. Mr. Bierstadt is well known as a scholar and a bibliographer, among his most notable contributions in the latter field being the important "Catalogue of the Library of Robert Hoe," published about two years since.

**BULLITT, Miss Mary K.,** was on Nov. 29 elected librarian of the newly organized Public Library of Lexington, Ky. Miss Bullitt has for several years been connected with the Lexington press.

**CANFIELD - NORTON.** Miss Elizabeth Norton, of the N. Y. State Library School, 1896-97, was married Dec. 29 at the Cathedral of All Saints, Albany, to Mr. Thomas Hawley Canfield. Her home will be at Lake Park, Becker County, Minnesota.

**COOK, William Burt, jr.,** of the N. Y. State Library School, class of '98, has been appointed assistant in the Public Libraries Division of the N. Y. State Library.

**DOWLING, Mrs. Katharine J.,** who for 18 years has been assistant librarian in the Central Library, Rochester, N. Y., has been promoted to the office of librarian. Mrs. Dowling will be remembered by those who took the first summer course in 1896 in the New York State Library School.

**KITTREDGE, Jeremiah C.,** chairman of the board of trustees of the Tewkesbury (Mass.)

Public Library, and for 10 years a member of the A. L. A., died suddenly near his home in Brookline, Mass., on Dec. 20. Mr. Kittredge was born in Boston, Dec. 13, 1847; he lived for many years in Tewkesbury, and had resided in Brookline since 1889. He was known as an author and playwright, among his publications being a history of the Tewkesbury library (which was founded by himself and his brother, George A. Kittredge), "Historic footprints on British soil," and a large number of dramas and comedies. By his will, which was filed on Jan. 5 in the probate court at Dedham, the sum of \$5000 is bequeathed to the trustees of the Tewkesbury Public Library, the income to be expended for the purchase of books for the library. In case the town decides to erect a library building, the testator directs that the sum may be applied to assist in the erection of the building, provided it is called the Kittredge Library.

KNAPP, Arthur Mason, for 20 years custodian of Bates Hall of the Boston Public Library, died at his home in Boston on Tuesday, Dec. 27, after a short illness. Mr. Knapp was born in St. Johnsbury, Vt., Aug. 3, 1839, and prepared for college in the Boston Latin School. He entered Harvard as a member of the class of '63, among his classmates being John Fiske and the late ex-Governor Greenhalge. After leaving Harvard Mr. Knapp spent a few years in teaching the classics and mathematics at Phillips Exeter Academy and at the Brookline High School, and on Jan. 23, 1875, entered the service of the Boston Public Library. He was at first placed in charge of the periodicals and pamphlets and of the special collections in the Barton and Prince libraries, and his catalog of the Barton library of Shakespeariana brought his work recognition. In 1878 he was made custodian of Bates Hall, and placed in charge of the public card catalog, and in that capacity he became probably better known to the general public than any other officer in the library. He was the recipient of innumerable inquiries on all conceivable subjects, and his remarkable memory and familiarity with the collection were of great and unflinching service to readers. Indeed, it was currently said that he "knew every book in the library," and he was always ready to give of his best to all. Mr. Knapp was married in 1875 to Miss Abby Bartlett, who died in 1876. The funeral services were held Dec. 30 in the Shawmut Church, Boston. Among the six pall-bearers were Herbert Putnam, James L. Whitney, and Lindsay Swift, of the Boston Public Library. Perhaps one of the most touching tributes to Mr. Knapp's memory was a large wreath of immortelles placed upon his desk on the day of the funeral by Mr. James M. Barnard, an aged student of means, who frequented the library. Mr. Barnard was only an *habitué* of the place, so far as Mr. Knapp had been concerned, but the uniform kindness and courtesy of the official in attending on the wants of a reader had won this offering to his memory. It was, however, but a material evidence of what many others who had known Mr. Knapp as an official only have expressed since his death.

MARTINEAU, Russell, late assistant keeper of books in the British Museum, died at Sidmouth, Eng., on Dec. 15, 1898. Mr. Martineau was born in Dublin, Jan. 18, 1831, and graduated from the University of London in 1854. After some years in Germany, he went to London in 1857 as Professor of Hebrew in Manchester New College, and in the same year was appointed an assistant in the Printed Book Department of the British Museum, where he obtained rapid promotion. The *Athenaeum* says: "His tastes were mainly philological and bibliographical. As a philologist, without intermitting the study of Hebrew, he made himself acquainted with Icelandic, Russian, and most of the languages of Northern and Eastern Europe, and took an especial interest in Romansch, upon which he contributed valuable papers to the 'Transactions' of the Philological Society. As a bibliographer he devoted himself with especial zeal to the study of early printing, and made, in particular, minute research into the variations of the copies of the most ancient Mentz books, the subject of a most elaborate article by him in *Bibliographica*. The extensive collections of original editions of Luther's works acquired by the Museum in his time were cataloged, and the entire article was thoroughly revised by him; he paid much attention to the improvement of the cataloging of complete editions of the Bible in all languages recently published by the Museum. He was proceeding with the Old Testament when his official career was terminated in January, 1896, by the operation of the superannuation rules. He had been an Assistant Keeper of Printed Books since 1884. Mr. Martineau published no original work, but was the translator of Gregorovius's volume on Corsica, and the editor of the standard English version of Ewald's 'History of the People of Israel.' He edited the Song of Solomon for the 'Chromatic Bible,' now in course of publication under the direction of Professor Haupt. Among his accomplishments were conchology, botany, and a scientific knowledge of music, and he was an admirable interpreter of the finest classical compositions upon the piano and organ. Frequent and serious attacks of illness, whose effect was to aggravate a natural hesitation of speech and nervousness of manner, prevented his doing full justice to his powers, but he conveyed to all who knew him an impression of the most conscientious industry and the highest moral worth."

OSTRANDER, Mrs. M. F., librarian of the Sage Library, of Bay City, Mich., died on Dec. 3, 1898. Mrs. Ostrander had been librarian of the Sage Library since it was opened, and prior to that time had served as school librarian.

PINGREE-BLAKE. Miss Harriet Cummings Blake was married Jan. 4, 1899, to Mr. Frederick Judson Pingree. Her home will be at 26 St. James avenue, Boston. Miss Blake was engaged in the cataloging department of the Boston Public Library, 1880-86, took a special course in the N. Y. State Library School in 1889, and was instructor in dictionary cataloging in the same school in 1893.

## Cataloging and Classification.

The *CARNEGIE L. (Pittsburgh, Pa.) Bulletin* for November contains an interesting classed list of books suitable as "gifts for the children's bookshelves" and intended for parents, prepared by Miss F. J. Olcott, children's librarian. There are about 250 titles, with good annotations; price and publisher are also stated and call numbers are given. Books for the youngest children are starred.

ENOCH PRATT F. L. OF BALTIMORE CITY.

Finding list, Central Library. Sixth edition.

Part 1. Libraries and literature; English literature, fiction juveniles, poetry, drama. Baltimore, November, 1898. 6 + 310 p. O. 25 c.

This list is printed by linotype from the slugs used in the previous finding list of July, 1893, and in the bulletins issued since then.

JAHRESVERZEICHNISS der Schweizerischen Universitätschriften, 1897-1898. Catalogue des écrits académiques suisses, 1897-1898. Basel, Schweighauserische Buchdruckerei, 1898. 4+63 p. 8°.

LIBRARIES AND INDEXING. (*In the Saturday Review*, Dec. 17, 1898. 86:811-812.) 2 col.

Emphasizes the importance of a subject catalogue for libraries.

LIBRARY OF THE BISHOP OF VERMONT. [Catalog.] 1898. [Burlington, Vt., 1898.] 56 p. l. O.

The nucleus of this collection was formed from the library of Bishop Hopkins, secured for the use of the diocese through the generosity of friends, augmented by the books presented to the theological department of the Vermont Episcopal Institute, and by other gifts. Further additions are asked. The library is accessible to the clergy of the diocese, and books are loaned to those at a distance for a term of two months, transportation charges being paid by the borrower. The catalog is classed, and is naturally closely specialized in theological and religious literature; it is compiled by the Rev. J. B. Johnson from a card catalog made by Miss M. L. Titcomb, of the Rutland Free Library.

LUDWIG ROSENTHAL'S Antiquariat, Munich, has issued an elaborate sales catalog (Catalog 100) of rare and costly books, covering a wide field. It contains many illustrations and several interesting facsimiles, and the 2027 items listed have liberal and careful annotations. The catalog fills 384 pages, and is sold at six marks.

MAIMONIDES F. L., *N. Y.* Catalogue of English fiction. New York, 1898. 84 p. l. O.

A title-a-line author list; rather careless in plan and workmanship.

The *N. Y. P. L. Bulletin* for December contains the second and final part of the list of technical periodicals in that library and in the Columbia library.

NIAGARA FALLS (*N. Y.*) P. L. Finding list.

January, 1899. [Niagara Falls, N. Y., 1899.]

8+134 p. O.

A D. C. classed list, with author and subject indexes, and a separate classed list of children's books. Fiction (32 p.) is given under 800, but without class numbers. There is a small collection of books for the blind, and the Porter collection of books relating to Niagara Falls. The catalog is typographically attractive, but the practice of grouping books on varied subjects under limited headings results in much confusion. For instance, under "Agriculture; Domestic economy," the class numbers run from 630 to 694, and the commingling of ensilage, seal fisheries, sandwiches, shorthand, railways, bookkeeping, and carpentry is rather amazing. The subject index seems insufficient for easy use. There are no references to seals, to shorthand, or to masonry, and in the absence of specific references to these or to such subjects as war or military science few readers would be likely to seek them under such general headings as "Agriculture; Domestic economy" and "Law and administration." The catalog is prefaced by a short historical sketch of the library.

PHILADELPHIA F. L. Bulletin, no. 1. Descriptive catalogue of the writings of Sir Walter Scott; by John Thomson. Philadelphia, November, 1898. 106 p. l. O. 10 c.

This elaborate catalog initiates an important undertaking — no less than the publication "at irregular intervals of a series of descriptive catalogs of collections of works, such as have been published from time to time by important bibliographical societies, enterprising publishers, or book-loving collectors." The present publication is a minute, analytical record of the 98-volume edition of Scott's works published by Cadell, in Edinburgh, in 1830, and known as the "Author's favorite edition," and it will be followed by similar catalogs and analyses of the well-known "Library of old authors" and "The Rolls series." The Scott catalog is based upon material prepared by Mr. Thomson for the catalog of the Irvington library of the late Jay Gould. It is a title list in one alphabet, with numerous cross-references, including separate entries for every review, encyclopædia article, sketch, or other contribution from Scott's pen, as well as for the works generally associated with his name. Its most notable features are the remarkably full annotations, presenting a store of varied biographical and bibliographical information in most interesting fashion, and the ample index (covering 28 two-column pages), which affords a key to nearly every allusion, name, or place found in the notes. The date of publication of each work is given, with its volume number in the series. The arrangement, typography, and printing of the catalog leave



little to be desired; we note, however, such typographical slips as "addition" for "edition," and "a tractless desert." In the preface Mr. Thomson briefly outlines his projected series, and expresses his belief that the detailed analytical bibliographical work, so interesting and valuable to students and investigators, will be found to be also of value and interest to "the general reader in any free library." Of the interest of the Scott bulletin there can be no question; it is to be hoped that it will meet due appreciation from the public for whom it is intended.

THE PROVIDENCE (R. I.) P. L. *Bulletin*, in its double number for Nov. - Dec., 1898, announces that in 1899 the publication will be materially reduced in size and scope, appearing only as a monthly list of accessions. The change is made necessary for financial reasons. The *Bulletin*, as heretofore issued, has been so valuable a library aid in its notes, special catalogs, and familiar reference lists that the discontinuance of these admirable features is a matter for general regret.

BERNARD QUARITCH'S December list, devoted to privately printed books, contains a few interesting examples of the Earl of Crawford's privately printed contributions to history, geography, and bibliography, including the "Bibliotheca Lindesiana," or catalog of early English ballads privately printed at Aberdeen in 1890, and the catalog of English broadsides, 1505, similarly issued in 1898; and the "Collations and notes" of 1883-4. Those American librarians who were in attendance at the International Library Conference of 1897 will recall the extent and richness of Lord Crawford's collection in early broadsides, ballads, and rare works, and the careful and elaborate records of these treasures here listed are fresh evidence of the time and thought that have gone to their preservation and care.

THE SALEM (Mass.) P. L. *Bulletin* for December prints a list of the books contained in the A. L. A. annotated "List of French fiction," of which those not already in the library have been recently purchased. It has also a reading list on "Our foreign relations."

THE SAN FRANCISCO MECHANICS' INSTITUTE L. *Bulletin* for December contains several short reference lists on naval subjects, including warships, torpedoes, and submarine boats.

SCRANTON (Pa.) P. L. *Bulletin*, no. 12. Additions from June to December, 1898. p. 122-136. O.

SWEDISH PERIODICALS. Avhandlingar ock program utgivna vid Svenska ock Finska akademier ock skolor under åren 1855-1899: Bibliografi av A. G. S. Josephson. Uppsala, i kommission hos Lundequistska bokhandeln [1882-1897.] 8+341 p. 8°.

U. S. DEPT. OF AGRICULTURE. Library bulletin, November, 1898. Accessions to the department library, July-Sept., 1898. 16 p. [printed on one side.] O.

U. S. NAVY DEPT. L. Accessions to the Navy Department library, January-July, 1898. 56 p. [printed on one side.] O.

An author and title list in one alphabet.

U. S. OFFICE OF EXPERIMENT STATIONS. Some books on agriculture and sciences related to agriculture, published 1896-1898; prepared with the co-operation of the library of the Department of Agriculture. 45 p. O. (Circular no. 38, Office of Experiment Stations.)

#### CHANGED TITLES.

Two remarkable instances of books being published simultaneously with entirely different titles are reported by a correspondent. The first book in question is Murat Halstead's "Our new possessions," published by the Dominion Pub. Co., of Chicago, and also issued (an exact duplicate except title) as "The story of the Philippines" by a firm styling itself "Our Possessions Pub. Co.," of the same city, which is possibly the same firm under another name. The second book, issued almost at the same time, is "The sexual instinct, its uses and dangers as affecting heredity and morals," by J. F. Scott, published by E. B. Treat & Co., of New York, which also appeared simultaneously under the title "Heredity and morals as affected by the use and abuse of the sexual instincts." The reissue of an old book under a new name is a practice with which most bookbuyers are familiar, but the simultaneous issue of the same book under two titles is a curious variation of the scheme. The changes were evidently made in the desire to attract different classes of readers, and it is likely that the authors are to be acquitted of any share in the deception. Dr. James Foster Scott, author of the Treat book, is a Yale alumnus, and stands high in the medical profession.

ARTHUR PATERSON, author of "The gospel writ in steel," is stated on the title-page of that novel to be also the author of "A son of the plains" and "The man from Snowy River." The former statement is correct, but "The man from Snowy River" is the work of Mr. A. B. Paterson, an entirely different person. The error is said to have been due to carelessness in passing the title-page for press, and it is corrected in a statement issued by Messrs. A. D. Innes & Co., Mr. Paterson's publishers.

#### FULL NAMES.

The following are supplied by Harvard College Library:

Chancellor, C: Williams (Report on improved methods of sewage disposal and water supplies);

Clark, W: Jared (Commercial Cuba);

Desmond, Humphrey Joseph (The church and the law);

Pearson, H: Greenleaf (The principles of composition);

Schroeder, Gustavus Wilhelm (History of the Swedish Baptists in Sweden and America);

Scott, Harriet Maria, assisted by Gertrude Buck, (Organic education);

Whigham, H: James (How to play golf).

## Bibliograf.

ANGLO-SAXON LITERATURE. Brooke, Stopford A. English literature from the beginning to the Norman conquest. N. Y., Macmillan, 1898. 9+338 p. 8°. net, \$1.50.

Contains a 9-page annotated bibliography of the manuscripts and texts and translations of the literature of the period.

BINDING. Some interesting examples of modern binding are shown in the "Catalogue of an exhibition of bookbinding by the Guild of Women Binders and the Hampstead Bindery," issued by Karslake & Co., 61 Charing Cross Road, London. The Guild, which is not yet a year old, has already won a recognized place among the art binderies of the day, and examples of its work have been shown in various American exhibitions of fine bindings. The catalog contains some interesting facsimiles of designs, full descriptions of the bindings listed and a readable sketch of the Guild and its aims.

BUSH-FRUIT. Card, F. W. Bush-fruits: a horticultural monograph on raspberries, blackberries, dewberries, currants, gooseberries, and other shrub-like fruits. N. Y., Macmillan, 1898. 12+537 p. il. 16°. (The rural science series.) \$1.50.

Contains a two-page bibliography of American books on bush-fruits.

CHICAGO. Sparling, S: Edwin. Municipal history and present organization of the city of Chicago. Madison, 1898. 188 p. 8°. (Bulletin of the University of Wisconsin, no. 23.) Contains a 9-page bibliography.

ENGLISH HISTORY. The A. L. A. Publishing Section has issued the first instalment of the "Annotated titles of books on English history," selected and prepared by W. Dawson Johnston. This section covers 29 titles of books published in 1897, and is issued in pamphlet form, printed on one side of the page to facilitate cutting and pasting on standard catalog cards. It continues the work begun independently in 1896 by Mr. Johnston, then of the University of Michigan, and is intended to furnish a reliable guide to the best recent English historical literature. The fact that the annotated cards do not appear until at least six months after the publication of the books listed gives greater critical value to the comments and makes it possible to summarize the verdicts of the chief critical reviews. The notes indicate briefly the sources, scope, and value of each work, and refer to the most important reviews elicited by it. Publication of the annotations will be made quarterly, and later instalments will be devoted to the books of 1898. The subscription price is \$1.25 for cards, 50c. for pamphlets.

JUVENILE LITERATURE. Robinson und Robinsonaden. Bibliographie, Geschichte, kritik. Ein Beitrag zur vergleichenden Litteraturgeschichte, im Besonderen zur Geschichte des

Romans und zur Geschichte der jugend litteratur; von Dr. Herrmann Ullrich. Theil 1. Bibliographie. Weimar, Emil Felber, 1898. 19+247 p. O. (Litterarhistorische Forschungen, Heft 7.) 9 marks.

MARYLAND. Maryland Geological Survey. v. 2. Baltimore, Johns Hopkins Press, 1898. 509 p. 8°.

Contains a bibliography of the history of the quarrying industry in Maryland—43 titles. Mr. Edward B. Matthews contributes to the volume, pages 337-488, an account of "The maps and map-makers of Maryland," beginning with Ayllon's map of 1527.

MATHEMATICS. The second part of the "Contributo degli italiani alla storia delle scienze matematiche pure ed applicato," compiled by Prof. Pietro Riccardi, of the University of Bologna, of which part 1 appeared about a year since, has been issued, like its predecessor, as a "separate" from the "Memorie delle Accademia delle scienze dell' Istituto di Bologna." (series 5, v. 7.)

TOM TIT TOT. Clodd, Edward. Tom Tit Tot: an essay on savage philosophy in folk-tale. London, Duckworth & Co., 1898. 10+249 p. 12°.

Contains a 4-page bibliography of the variants of Tom Tit Tot.

## Anonyms and Pseudonyms.

The following are taken from the "Catalogue of title entries of books" issued from the office of the Register of Copyrights, Library of Congress: Ek, *Doctor*, *pseud.* of Howard T. Smith.

"The iron hand." 17:256 (N.2, '98); Field, Michael, *pseud.* of Catherine Bradley and Edith Cooper. "Underneath the bough." 17:171 (O.26, '98);

Prime, *Lord*, *pseud.* of Walter D. Reynolds. "Mr. Jonnemacher's machine." 17:14 (O.12, '98);

Robertson, T., *pseud.* of Pierre C: Théodore Lafforgue. "Clave de los ejercicios contenidos en el nuevo curso de Inglés." 16:684 (S.14, '98);

Shirley, Penn, *pseud.* of Sarah J. Clarke. "Boys in clover." 16:935 (O.5, '98);

"The Catholic church in Wisconsin" is by Harry H. Heming. 16:937 (O.5, '98);

"Home queen cook-book" is edited by James E. White and Mrs. M. L. Wanless. 16:850 (S.28, '98);

"Life and love and death" is by Bolton Hall. 16:682 (S.14, '98);

"Omega: a tale of love, death, and the millennium; by a reporter," is by E. D. Elmer. 17:8 (O.12, '98);

"The seven ages of creation; or, Cosmos and the mysteries expounded; written by a voice in the west," is by J. M. Russell. 17:256 (N.2, '98);

"Story of Cyrano de Bergerac; founded upon and written from the play of that name which was written by Edmond Rostand" [anon.], is by Annie O'Hagan. 17:332 (N.9, '98).

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## Catalogue of the Printed Literature in the

### Welsh Department of the Cardiff Free Libraries.

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The chief entry for each book is under the Author, and includes in every case the place of printing and the printer's name, with other details. Books are also entered under their subjects, and in some cases under the title. An attempt has been made to give the correct names of authors, using bardic names or pseudonyms, and to identify the authors of anonymous works. The whole of the Catalogue is arranged in one alphabet on the dictionary plan.

With the exception of Rowland's *Cambrian Bibliography* (which only includes books published up to the year 1800), there is no work available on this subject, and the want of such a Catalogue has been much felt.

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See also *Publishers' Weekly* of August 6, '98, p. 187.

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Del Tesoro Britannico Prima Overo Il Museo Nummario, 2 vols., leather. London, 1719. \$7.50.  
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NO. 2

THE President's appointment of Samuel J. Barrows, of Massachusetts, to be Librarian of Congress, is neither the appointment that was hoped nor the appointment that was feared. Credit should be given to the President for his wish to appoint a librarian of first rank. It has become an open secret that he had caused to be indicated to Mr. Herbert Putnam two years ago and again this year his desire that it would be possible for his services to be at the disposal of the national library. It is to be regretted that circumstances made it impracticable for Mr. Putnam to accept. Mr. Barrows was the most satisfactory of the candidates outside the library profession or the field of trained and tried executives. Though he has no professional experience in library work except in some connection with the records of the State Department years ago, and though he is not known to have developed marked executive ability, he is a man of scholarly attainments, of varied experience, of dignified presence and courteous manner, an author and editor of repute, and a user of libraries at home and abroad. He has served in Congress for a term, and has there expressed himself as thoroughly in line with the best civil service principles. Under his administration, if he handles the affairs of the library with firmness, supports without fear or favor heads of departments who are doing good work, and makes sure that the force throughout the library is competent for its tasks—which in itself will require not a little courage and decision—the library should be made creditable to the nation, even if it fails to attain the position which a stronger man would have earned for it. It is scarcely necessary to bespeak for Mr. Barrows from the library profession full support in every good act and frank criticism of mistakes, and we believe that he is a man who will desire both.

"POLITICS" has broken out in another state library and has lost to Pennsylvania the services of its experienced state librarian, Dr. Egle. He was one of the first to appreciate the importance of state publications, and he systematized in an admirable manner the methods of publication of Pennsylvania documents and promoted an adequate system of exchanges.

There were no reasons, so far as known, except political ones, for his removal, and if the rumor is true that the decapitation was one of the moves on the political chessboard connected with the candidacy of Senator Quay for reelection to the Senate, this adds another element of disgrace to the state. Nothing is more lamentable throughout the country than this treatment of the post of state librarian as a pawn in the game of politics, to be sacrificed before the king of the hour. This evil has become so serious that it ought to be checked by public opinion, and it is to be hoped that the American Library Association will not fail at each of its annual conferences to make its voice heard in protest against such misuse of a non-political position. Incidentally it is stated that the new incumbent of the state library, who is the president of one of the smaller colleges, is to retain both positions—which suggests either that the new librarian has extraordinary executive ability, or that the situation is even worse than usual.

ANNOUNCEMENT is made elsewhere of the plans for the Atlanta meeting of the American Library Association, so far as these have been shaped. It will be seen that preparations are already rounded for what promises to be a useful and delightful meeting, and while it is not to be expected that the attendance will reach a record figure, indications point to a fully representative gathering. Of the social enjoyments that await the library visitors it is unnecessary to speak. These are in good hands, and southern hospitality is proverbial. But the meeting affords an opportunity for large and direct usefulness that should be a first consideration. Within the past few years there has been a notable library development among the southern states, sporadic perhaps, but certain, and the time is ripe for these isolated efforts to be succeeded by a broad and general "library movement" in the South. The travelling libraries sent out in many of the states by women's clubs and other organizations, the special library laws passed in Tennessee and elsewhere, the efforts for state library commissions being made in Kentucky and other states, all these are signs of the times that should be

made not signs but certainties by the influence and inspiration of the national library conference. In Georgia alone this is especially true. The state library association in its short existence has sown good seed, a state library commission is at least started, and the munificent gift of Mr. Carnegie to Atlanta has awakened an immediate public interest in library affairs. Under these circumstances, and with due recognition of these conditions on its program, it is not too much to hope that the Atlanta meeting of the A. L. A. may mark a new era in the library history of the South.

### Communications.

#### 25 GOOD BOOKS OF TRAVEL.

As in reviewing travels for the *Dial* for several years, and in other ways I have examined more than 200 books of travel, it may be of interest if I mention what seem to me the best 25:

- GENERAL. Twain, Following the Equator; Allen and Sachtleben, Across Asia on a bicycle; Hornaday, Two years in the jungle.  
 GREECE. Barrows, Isles and shrines of Greece.  
 ITALY. Bazin, Italians of to-day.  
 RUSSIA. Hapgood, Russian rambles.  
 TURKEY. Ramsay, Impressions of Turkey.  
 CHINA. Colquhoun, China in transformation; Thomson, Through China with a camera.  
 KOREA. Bishop, Korea and her neighbors.  
 FORMOSA. Mackay, From far Formosa.  
 JAPAN. Bishop, Unbeaten tracks in Japan.  
 SANDWICH ISLANDS. Bishop, Sandwich Isles.  
 PHILIPPINES. Stevens, Yesterdays in the Philippines; Worcester, The Philippine Islands.  
 AUSTRALIA. Lumholtz, Among cannibals.  
 AFRICA. Bryce, Impressions of South Africa; Kingsley, Travels in West Africa; Steevens, Egypt in 1808.  
 ALASKA. Elliott, Our Arctic provinces; Windt, Through the gold fields of Alaska.  
 ARCTIC REGIONS. Nansen, Farthest north, Across Greenland; Peary, Northward over the great ice.  
 FLORIDA. Willoughby, Through the Everglades.

If the best of recent travels are kept on exhibition in the reading-room, interest is greatly stimulated.

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#### FRAGMENTS OF ANCIENT MSS.

At one of the sessions of the College Section of the A. L. A. at the Chautauqua Lake conference there was read a paper by Professor Richardson, of Princeton, in which he gave some very sensible hints regarding the pur-

chase and use of facsimiles of ancient texts by American libraries. I should like to call attention to another and related matter of palaeographical interest which lies within the reach of American libraries.

I refer to the fact, well known to all students of bookbinding, that in many books of the 15th and 16th centuries pieces or leaves of mss. are bound in as fly-leaves. As a rule such leaves are not of great value, but one can never be certain of the value of a leaf of ms. until it is identified. In our older and larger libraries, as well as scattered through our smaller ones, there must be many books with leaves of ms. in the binding. Why is it not possible to overhaul our old books, determine what ones have portions, even small portions, of mss. in the binding, and then identify the fragments? If for nothing more than the experience of deciphering the writing, such a piece of work would amply repay anyone who should undertake it. University librarians could easily obtain the co-operation of professors and students of classical philology in such work, while the librarians of other institutions would not find much difficulty in obtaining assistance did they not feel themselves ready to do the work.

The value of one or two leaves of mss. cannot be easily stated. They may be worth nothing, and they may be of great service. It was by the discovery of two leaves of a ms. of Livy some years ago at Munich that the name of Beatus Rhenanus was cleared of the reproach which some editors had consistently endeavored to fasten upon him of having put his conjectures on the text of the third decade of that author into his edition. Instances of this sort and others where a few lines found in the binding of a work are the only remains of an author or of a famous work might be greatly multiplied.

For students intending to work on mss. in European libraries it would be a great help to have the opportunity of previous work on fragments of actual mss. Facsimiles are helpful, but they are not infrequently better than the ms. itself, as the best pages are generally chosen for reproduction. Nothing can take the place of reading the mss. in the original. I need hardly point out how very desirable such preliminary practice is to students of history or philology intending to work with documents written during the Middle Ages.

I am convinced that were a search made and the results published the librarians and professors of America would be not a little astonished to find how much original material for palaeographical study lies within easy reach for them. I have no doubt contributions of value to the text of classical authors and to our knowledge of history can be made from the bindings of books now reposing quietly on forgotten shelves. Certainly the possibilities are sufficient to justify an earnest effort to discover exactly what we possess in this line.

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## THE NEWBERRY GENEALOGICAL INDEX.

BY ALEXANDER J. RUDOLPH, *Assistant Librarian, The Newberry Library, Chicago.*

PROBABLY one of the largest indexes attempted by any library in the particular line of genealogy is that now nearing completion at The Newberry Library. It is a genealogical index to American families, containing nearly 500,000 single entries, and representing over 200,000 families with their branches. These entries are placed in alphabetical order in 265 folio Indexer books, and cover a period from the settlement of St. Augustine, Florida, A.D. 1565, to the present time. At the time when the printing of this index will be taken under consideration by the trustees of this library the number of entries will have reached from 650,000 to 700,000.

This work was started in March, 1897. Four persons were detailed to it, consisting of one regular cataloger, Miss Caroline M. McIlvaine, two typewriters, and a boy. The methods used in the compilation to secure speed and the utmost accuracy are rather new and original, and it may be that a somewhat detailed description of them will be of interest to the profession in general.

First of all, it was necessary to prepare a list of sources from which to draw the necessary material. They were as follows:

- Public and private printed family histories.
- Publications of genealogical societies.
- County and town histories.
- Historical societies' collections.
- Centennial anniversary celebrations.
- American biographical dictionaries.
- Church registers.
- Parish records of births, deaths, and marriages.
- Publications of antiquarian societies.
- Military registers.
- War and pension records.
- Rosters.
- Almanacs.
- Collections of epitaphs.
- Wills and probate records.
- American periodicals and newspapers.
- English county histories.
- Statistics of emigrants.
- Heraldic visitations.
- Indexes to American genealogies.
- United States histories, viz.:*
- Colonial history.
- French and Indian war.
- Revolutionary war with Great Britain.

Mexican war.

Civil war.

Regimental histories.

Military histories and statistics.

Histories of names: personal and geographical.

Documentary histories.

Archives and records of the various states of the United States.

It will be seen at a glance that in gathering material from such a variety of sources as is enumerated above there must ultimately accrue a great number of references under one particular family name. In order to meet this result an arbitrary arrangement of three groups or subdivisions under a given name was adopted, namely:

(a) Names of progenitors arranged in alphabetical order.

(b) Location:

1. America.

2. Single states of the United States, with their towns and cities in alphabetical order.

3. Foreign countries: England, Ireland, Scotland, Canada.

(c) Allied families arranged alphabetically.

Practical experience gained in the work of the genealogical department of this library established the fact that the compiler of a genealogy requires, beyond the family names and locations, a certain number of subject headings under which he expects to find the desired information, *viz.*:

1. The various spellings of the family name.

2. The names of the families with which the members have intermarried.

3. The location, *i.e.*, name of town, city, or state.

4. The name of the ship or vessel that brought the ancestor of the family to this country.

5. The name of the war, battle, or campaign in which an ancestor was engaged.

6. The cemetery where an ancestor was buried.

Great difficulties were encountered in collecting under one principal heading the various spellings of a family name. The etymological transformation of surnames was much subject to fluctuations of orthography during the last century, and to-day the spelling of names is

sometimes so changed that the various branches of one family have lost sight in course of time of their relationship. The following example, out of many, will more fully illustrate the difficulty confronted:

Batchelder, Bachaler, Bachelor, Bachelder\*, Bacheldor, Bacheidore, Bacheeldr, Bacheller\*, Bachellor\*, Bachelor\*, Bachilder, Bachiler\*, Bachilo, Bachillor, Bachlicor, Bachlor, Bacholter, Bactherer, Bashelor, Batchalder, Batchaldor, Batchalor, Batchelar, Batcheldor\*, Batcheler\*, Batcheller\*, Batchellor\*, Batchelor\*, Batchelter, Batchelder, Batchler, Batchlder, Batchldor, Batchlor, Batcholder, Batcholdor, Battachelor, or Bacler.

It will be noticed that several of the names in above list have a superior (\*) attached to them. This mark indicates to the reader that entries will be found under such name in the general alphabet of the index, and in order to make sure that any known spelling of a particular name shall guide the reader to the proper source, cross-references to "Batchelder" have been made from each name, with or without the superior (\*), in the general alphabet of the index.

From these corruptions and variations arises one of the greatest difficulties which the compiler of a genealogical tree has to deal with; while this fact is an important source of revenue for the professional genealogist, whose bills for services rendered in this direction are not exactly of a microscopic figure. To sum up then, this index contains in one general alphabet:

1. Names of families.
2. Names of places; as towns, cities, counties, and single states of the United States, England, Ireland, Scotland, and Canada.
3. Names of single battles, ships, and cemeteries; entered twice, once in the general alphabet, and repeated collectively under their respective headings.

In order to shorten the index as far as may be, consistently with its usefulness, all superfluous words have been dropped from the titles, as will be illustrated further on. Place of publication and size are omitted, but the date is always given. Portraits, crests, and heraldic illustrations are important factors in genealogy. A star (\*) at the end of the title entry indicates portrait or portraits, while a double dagger (‡) stands for crests or heraldic illustrations. In the arrangement of the general alphabet

the prefix "Mc" is not alphabeted as if written in full — Mac — but arranged under "Mc."

So much for the theoretical part of the work. Now for the practical portion, which is carried out as follows:

Supposing the work to be indexed, is, "J. B. Richmond. The Richmond family. 1594-1896, and pre-American ancestors, 1040-1594. Boston, 1897. illus. pors. facsim. 4°."

This work has been excellently indexed, and its alphabetical order brings all individuals of the same surname together. 602 entries have been extracted from this work, and as the form of entry in each particular case will be the same, a rubber stamp is used. The advantages of the stamp are: 1, Saving of a laborious repetition by the typewriter; 2, Securing a higher degree of accuracy; 3, Producing the greatest amount of work in a minimum time. The rubber stamp consists of a rubber plate fastened to a block with a small handle, and costs 11½ c. The plate reads as follows:

— Richmond fam. (Richmond, J. B.) 1897. See index. \*E 7. R 417.

In the general index one entry will be found under "Richmond family" (Subdivision "a": *Names of progenitors*), while all other 601 entries appear under such other names as have intermarried with the Richmond family, and consequently are placed under subdivision "c," *Allied families*. The title entry, illustrating point "b," *Location*, is arranged as shown in the following example:

"Mary E. Perkins. Old houses of the antient town of Norwich, 1660-1800. Norwich, 1895. illus. pors."

The rubber stamp for this work reads as follows:

— Norwich, Ct. 1660-1800. (Perkins, M. E.) 1895. See indices. \*E 69655.6 a

Two hundred and thirteen different family names have been found in the above work, and the above entry appears under each particular family name in the general alphabet of the index, under subdivision "b" (*Location*) Connecticut. As the work contains two indices, the attention of the inquirer is called to them in the title entry on the stamp, reading "See indices." The book is then handed over to the typewriter (we use Remington machines) with the following instructions: 1, Make two copies on thin paper, 13 inches x 8 inches, and form two columns; 2, Length of full line is 41 spaces; 3, Leave double space between the entries; 4, Leave a margin of two inches at top; 5, Begin

all headings at one; 6, Call number is placed as far to the right as possible, taking a new line if necessary.

As many of the works indexed consist of several volumes, while others have no indices at all, or else their detailed alphabetical arrangement does not properly point out their exact position in the volume, it becomes necessary in such cases to give number of volume or page number, and sometimes both. The exact place where such volume or page number should be typewritten is easily established, because the length of a uniform font of type used on the rubber stamps allows us to calculate the precise length of the line that the title will occupy. An impression made with the rubber stamp will perfectly match the typewriting and present the same appearance as if both had been done with one impression. It should be stated here that no stamp has more than two lines, including title, date, volume, page, and shelf numbers.

The sheets are handed back to the cataloger for revision. An impression with the stamp on the top margin signifies that the work is correct and ready for the boy to make clear and even impressions with the stamp below each name on the sheets. Two copies are typewritten, as has been stated above, one copy to be cut up for the index, as will be explained later on, while the second copy is bound in a flexible binding in its numerical order of the shelf number. This forms a reserve copy in case of accident to the first copy, and also a handy record of the book itself, and of the matter indexed of such work, and in case of another edition it will assist the noting of any new matter requiring to be indexed.

By this *modus operandi* a boy and a typewriter will turn out an amount of work equal to that of at least five people. An idea may be formed of the magnitude of this genealogical index when it is stated that 127 entries is the average number of entries for each volume and pamphlet so far indexed. The typewritten sheets,

consisting of two columns, are cut, and each single column is mounted on 5-ply cardboard  $4\frac{1}{2}$  inches x 13 inches, leaving a clear space three-eighths of an inch between the extreme edge and alphabetizing letter.

The next operation is to pass them through a cutting machine, especially constructed for such work, operated by a boy, who cuts over 5000 entries per day. These entries are returned to the catalog department, alphabetized by the first letter only. They are then arranged in alphabetical order according to their family name or other subject at the top of each slip, and the family names are in turn subdivided as explained above. When finally arranged these little slips are placed in an Indexer book, consisting of a series of slip-holders having parallel grooves or channels upon both sides. These little slips, being rather elastic, retain their places within their channels, and are capable of adjustment and rearrangement therein. Hinge sections are attached to each holder or page, in order that any number of new holders may be intercalated by simply unhinging those which meet at that point and introducing the new ones; thus, any desired thickness of book may be obtained, or a book may be subdivided at any time to form new volumes if it become too bulky.

An Indexer book constructed in this manner can be opened out perfectly flat, no matter how many holders it may contain. To facilitate the returning of a volume to its proper place, the label outside has, besides its lettering, a series number also.

The extent of this Newberry index as compared with the printed indices of Whitmore and Durrie (1895) may be best illustrated as follows: Whitmore gives 12 references under Smith; Durrie, 196; the Newberry index, 976.

The Newberry index forms a key to the records of American families which may be truly considered worthy of exhibition at the Paris exposition as the representative book of the American nation.

### THE TRIALS OF A NEW ASSISTANT.\*

BY LOUISE FARGO BROWN, *Buffalo (N. Y.) Public Library.*

"WHAT not to do when you start to work in a library" would be, perhaps, the most fitting title for these gleanings from experience; and as it is not long since I have done all these

tabooed things myself, I feel that it is the solitary subject on which I am competent to speak.

In the first place, the beginner in the library force is likely to place too much confidence in the words of her friends when they congratulate her on going to work in "such a nice, clean place, where you will be right among books, and

\* Read before the Library Club of Buffalo, Nov. 16, 1898.

will have such opportunities for reading." It is to be hoped that she will always think the library a "nice" place; but how many libraries deserve the other adjective? As for reading, I certainly hope the day will come when I can utilize those scraps of miscellaneous information seized on the trips from stack to counter, and gathered from the private mark page while finishing. The method cannot be recommended as giving a comprehensive grasp of any subject, but the result is something which, however heterogeneous, is still information, and is carefully cherished, for while the public continues to crave enlightenment in its present omnivorous way, there seems no prospect of supplementing it.

Now, suppose the time to have arrived when, fortified by the well-meant fallacies of friends, the brave yet trembling candidate presents herself at the library. Perhaps she has long known the place from the outsider's point of view. If so, she has had her own little grievances, and cherishes a definite opinion of how the library should be run and shall be as soon as her influence, imperceptibly but firmly exerted, shall have convinced the reigning powers of the inferiority of their methods and the excellence of hers.

In the meanwhile she condescends to learn a few of the workings of the establishment.

She makes many blunders in her whole-souled enthusiasm for improving the taste of the public. She is shocked and pained to find that taste on the whole frivolous, and starts confidently upon the task of elevating it. She is greatly surprised to discover that the mental pabulum she offers is not devoured with avidity. She finds that the mind nourished upon the subtleties of Mrs. Hungerford's style has no craving for the naïve simplicity of Thackeray and Dickens; that the child accustomed to follow the stormy course of the great movement inaugurated by Elsie Dinsmore for the reclaiming of unregenerate parents finds the doings of Betty Leicester unbearably tame and Miss Alcott's young friends extremely uninteresting. She is simple enough to interpret the phrase "any good book" according to her own standards, and when she has learned her error is pretty sure to remark, "It depends on what you call a good book," and thus lays up vast stores of unpopularity.

She fully earns the remark, sure to come frequently, "I guess you are new here; perhaps

you had better ask one of the others"—probably the most galling experience she has to undergo.

She is not skilful in straightening out the inevitable word-tangles. Holmes' "Over the hiccups" and Longfellow's "Bandoline" are plain enough, and "Flowers in the cranium" are finally located in Tennyson's crannied walls, but before "Supercilios currents" she retires, baffled, for it takes a more experienced mind to evolve "Current superstitions."

She is dizzied by the quick changes of base made necessary when one person inquires suspiciously if there is any religion in a book, and will only take it on receipt of a negative, while the very next one wants a book by "some good Christian author like E. P. Roe." She wishes to slay the little prig who desires "not a fairy story, but something that will do me good," delights in the child that wants "a good Indian story for girls," and brings Macaulay's lays to the boy who demands "po'try books," having actual fowl in view.

She says, "Are you waited on?" until she finds herself accosting people thus on the street and over the telephone, and, in fact, goes through all phases in the education recommended by Kipling for puppies and boys; finds out her blunders by committing them, and finally evolves a formula something like this:

To the wisdom of the serpent add the dove's demeanor mild;

Hide a politician's tactics 'neath the meekness of a child;  
Be all things unto all persons, and to some be two or three;  
Have the air: "Some might be baffled, but there's nothing puzzles me";

Be acquainted with the history of nations near and far;  
Know their populations, industries, and who their rulers are;

Know all the best authorities on zo- and soci-ology,  
On physics, chess, mechanics, taxidermy, toxicology,  
On woman's rights and logic, on golf and brewing beer,  
With a thousand other subjects there's no time to mention here.

Know all the works of fiction from the time when mother Eve's

"Snakes I've met; or, Why we ate it," filled three volumes of fig-leaves.

Be informed on current topics and on those that aren't current;

Know why things that are, are as they are, and why the others weren't.

If these conditions you fulfil, and then have laid away

A little store of extra facts against a rainy day;

If all these things you are, I say, and sure are lacking nary 'un,

Then some day you may hope to be a really good librarian."



## CONTRIBUTION TOWARDS A BIBLIOGRAPHY OF ANCIENT LIBRARIES.

BY FREDERICK J. TEGGART, B.A., *Librarian Mechanics' Institute, San Francisco.*

(Concluded.)

## b. Pergamon.

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 (Rivalry with Alexandria) Pliny *n.A.* xiii, 70, xxxv, 10; Vitruvius vii praef.; Galenus xv, p. 105, 109 Kühn; Hieronymus *ep. vii ad Choremastum.*  
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## IV.

## ROME AND ITALY.

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 (Bibl. Asini Pollionis) Ovid. *trist.* iii, 1.71f.; Pliny *n.A.* vii, 115, xxxv, 10; Isidor. *orig.* vi, 5.2; CIL. vi, 470.  
 (Bibl. Apollinis Palatini) Ovid. *trist.* iii, 1.60f.; Velilius Paternulus ii, 81.3; Suetonius *Aug.* 29, *Caes.* 56, *gr.* 20; Pliny *n.A.* vii, 210; Fronto *ep.* iv, 5. p.

- 68 Nab.; Dio Cassius liii, 1; Schol. to Juvenal i, 128. CIL. vi, 5188, 5189, 5191, 5884.  
 (Bibl. porticus Octaviae) Ovid. *trist.* iii, 1.60f.; Suetonius *gr.* 21; Plutarch *Marc.* 30; Dio Cassius xlix, 43, lxvi, 24; Orosius vii, 16. CIL. vi, 1034, 2347-2349, 4433-4435, 5192.  
 (Bibl. templi Divi Augusti) Suetonius *Tib.* 74; Pliny *n.A.* xxxiv, 43; Martial xii, 3.7f.  
 (Bibl. domus Tiberianae) Gellius xiii, 20.1; Fronto *ep.* iv, 5. p. 68 Nab.; *vit. Probi* 2, 1; *vit. Aurel.* 9, 1 (see Wölfflin, *S.-Ber. Akad. München*, 1891, p. 497.)  
 (Bibl. templi Paciae) Gellius v, 21.9, xvi, 8.2; *vit. trig. tyr.* 31, 10.  
 (Bibliotheca Ulpiae) Gellius xi, 17.1; Dio Cassius lxxviii, 16; *vita Aurel.* 1.7, 1.10, 8.1, 24.7; *vita Probi* 2, 1; *vita Tac.* 8, 1; *vita Numer.* 9; Sidonius Apollinaris *ep.* ix, 16.3, 28.  
 (Bibl. Capitolina) Orosius vii, 16; Hieronymus *ad a Abr.* 2202 (*chron.* ii, p. 174 Schöne); Syncellus 668, 4 Bonn.  
 Comum: Pliny *ep.* i, 8.2; CIL. v, 526a.  
 Cumae: Cicero *ad Att.* iv, 20.  
 Tibur: Gellius ix, 14.3; xix, 5.4.  
*see also* CIL. iii, 607; x, 4760; xi, 2704 b.

- Private librs.: Isidor. *orig.* vi, 5.1. Dig. xxx, 41 § 9, xxxii, 7.12 § 34, xxxii, 52 § 7; Paull. *sent.* iii, 6.51.  
 Cicero *ad Att.* passim, *ad Quint.* iii, 4.5, *de fin.* iii, 7; Seneca, *de tranq. an.* 9.4; Petronius *satir.* 48; Suetonius p. 74 R.; Martial. vii, 27, ix pr., xiv, 190; Pliny *ep.* iii, 7.8, iv, 28.1; Plutarch *Aem. Paul.* 28; *Luc.* 42; Gellius iii, 10.17; Lucian *adv. in doct.* 4; *Donati vita Virgilii*, 66; Ansonius *epigr.* 7 [44] p. 313 Peiper; Symmachus *ep.* iv, 18.5; Hieronymus *ep.* xxii, 30; Sidonius Apollin. *ep.* ii, 9.4, iv, 11.6, viii, 4.1, viii, 11.2; *Hist. Aug. Gord.* 18, 3; Suidas *Ἐναχέειρος*.

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## V.

## LIBRARY MANAGEMENT AND BIBLIOGRAPHY.

## Lost bibliographical works:

Artemon of Cassandra *Περὶ βιβλίων χρήσεων*.

*Περὶ συναγωγῆς βιβλίων*.

Callimachus *Πίνακες* (in 120 books).

Herennius Philo of Byblos *Περὶ ἀρχαίων καὶ ἀπολογῆς βιβλίων βιβλία ιβ'.*

Telephus of Pergamon *Βιβλιακῆς ἐμπειρίας βιβλία γ'.*  
'In quibus docet, qui libri sint comparatu digni.'

Lib. buildings: Vitruvius i, 2.7; vi, 7.1.

Statues in lib.: Suetonius *Tib.* 70; Pliny vii, 220, xxxv, 9; Pliny *ep.* iv, 28; Dio Chrysostom *or.* xxxvii, p. 104 R.; Isidor. *or.* vi, 5.1.

Catalogues: Strabo, xvi, 2.24; Philodemus *περὶ φιλοσ.*; Dionysius Halic. *π. τ. ἀρχ. βιβλ.* p. 332 M.; Quintillian *inst.* x, 1.57; Athenæus viii, 336 e.

Loan of books: Gellius xiii, 20.1, xix, 5.4; Marc. *ad Front.* 4.5 Nab.

Character of a librarian: Theophrastus *ep. ad Luc.* § 7.

Pignoria, Lorenzo. De servis quorundam rei librariae adhibitis.

*in his* De servis. Padua, 1656.

Same. Amsterdam, 1674. p. 108 f.

*in Maderus, cit. supra.* i, 63–70.

Figrelus, Edmundus. De statu illustrium ac cumprimis doctorum virorum in veterum bibliothecis.

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## LIBRARIES AS POLITICAL OFFICES.

THE vacancy in the librarianship of Congress and the expiration, with the close of the year, of the terms of various state librarians have given ample opportunity during the past month for the observation of political methods applied to library appointments.

In the case of the Library of Congress, the post was sought by a host of applicants, many of whom evidently looked upon it simply as a political "plum." The following list of candidates—in addition to Mr. Barrows, who finally received the appointment—all of whom were recorded at more or less length in the public press, will give an idea of the mass of applications received, although in some of these cases it is probable that the names were suggested by the newspapers and that personal application was not made: Murat Halstead, Ohio politician and journalist, said to have the "support of the entire Ohio delegation"; Adjutant-General M. Fred Bell, of Callaway county, Missouri, who "has always had a very remarkable run of luck," and has "been given assurances of influential support"; Thomas J. Alvord, Jr., chief clerk of the library, formerly a journalist, and Cuban correspondent of the *New York World*, upon whom "the New York delegation is united"; William W. Rockhill, of Maryland, former Assistant Secretary of State and now Minister to Greece; Orville J. Victor, "a prominent litterateur, formerly of Ohio and later of New York City"; Dr. Joseph Robbins, of Quincy, Ill.; H. B. F. Macfarland, Washington correspondent of the *Boston Herald* and *Philadelphia Record*; George Alfred Townsend, of Maryland, journalist and novelist; John Addison Porter, secretary to the President; Major John M. Carson, Washington correspondent of the *Philadelphia Ledger*, by whose nomination "the President would compliment the workers of the guild journalistic"; A. R. Spofford; Gen. J. C. S. Clarkson, formerly head of the Republican National Committee, and First Assistant Postmaster-General under President Harrison, whose appointment would be "enthusiastically requested by the entire Iowa delegation"; Charles M. Peffer, journalist, for many years connected with the *Chicago Tribune*; Bernard R. Green, superintendent of the Library of Congress; John Tregaskiss, of Brooklyn, journalist and veteran of the Civil War; Gen. H. V. Boynton; Henry Watterson; James H. Canfield, president of Ohio State University. These are but a tithe of the names presented formally or informally for the President's consideration, and in most cases the "qualifications" of applicants were chiefly political or military service.

Among state libraries changes have been made in Pennsylvania, New Jersey, and Tennessee. In the first state the displacement of Dr. Egle is said to have been a direct use of the political axe in the Quay interests, and the reported intention of the new incumbent to combine the duties of state librarian with those

of college president does not augur well for the development of the library.

In New Jersey the retirement of the state librarian finds justification, for the former incumbent in his 15 years tenure of office had kept aloof from library progress and had maintained the library in a condition of masterly inactivity, while the incoming librarian is said to contemplate extensive changes and a broader policy, and has promptly undertaken a trip for inspection and information among the chief state libraries of the east and west. The appointment was, nevertheless, a political one, intended, as the *Trenton Times* ingenuously points out, to "have an important effect on local politics and stop a lot of Republican growling." The same paper adds: "There has been no end of complaint on the part of the Mercer county Republicans because so many high-salaried Democrats were retained in state offices, and dire things were threatened. Particularly criticism was directed against Comptroller Hancock, but when the objections were the noisiest, lo and behold, Comptroller Hancock named a Mercer Republican for librarian and landed him in the office."

Another paper prints the following list of candidates "boomed" for the office, which is interesting as an indication of qualifications necessary for librarianship: "George Glover, of Camden, and Editor John W. Newlin, of Millville, are candidates from South Jersey. Colonel William S. Sharp, of Trenton, has the backing of some of the Mercer county politicians. Other candidates are General James, of Burlington county; Lysander E. Watson, of Monmouth; Rev. Charles Dickerson, of Newark, a colored dominie, who has the indorsement of Chairman Franklin Murphy, of the State Committee; former Assemblyman Holdrum, of Bergen county; Fred Pangborn, son of Mayor Zebina K. Pangborn, who ran for Congress against 'Bill' Daly in Hudson county last fall; H. J. McDaniel, of Sussex county, a son of the old veteran who was displaced to make room for Colonel Hamilton; Clarence Biddle, of Trenton, sergeant-at-arms of the Supreme Court and Court of Errors; former Senator Gould, of Sussex county, and Jonathan Goble, of Ocean county."

In Tennessee Miss Pauline Jones, who has managed the library with apparent capability during her two years' term, has been succeeded by Miss Jennie Lauderdale, of Dyer county, after an "exciting contest," which is described much in the manner of a horse race by the local press. The *Nashville Banner*, for instance, says: "The race for state librarian, which was ended yesterday afternoon, was the most exciting of the week, and was won in a whipping finish on the 15th ballot. The 17 entries had been reduced to three on the 12th ballot, and Miss Pauline Jones' name was withdrawn before the result of that ballot was announced, leaving only Miss Jennie Lauderdale, of Dyer, and Mrs. Epperson, of Montgomery, on the track. There was no nomination on this ballot, however, for the reason that three members who voted for Miss Jones had failed to

change. Mrs. Epperson received 47, so that Miss Lauderdale's 50 votes was just one-half of those cast. Having everything to gain by delay, some of Mrs. Epperson's friends then began to filibuster, desiring to postpone the final ballot. Miss Lauderdale's friends stood firm, however, and after an hour's fight secured a ballot which gave Miss Lauderdale the victory." Several newspapers, however, notably the *Nashville American*, have condemned this election system, and the *Chattanooga Times* says: "The librarian ought to be appointed, as the result of a thorough competitive examination, and be removable only for cause, by the same power that should make the selection. The management of our important, though not large, state library, should be on a higher plane; and we hope the legislature of 1899 will institute a radical reform in this department."

#### THE ST. GALL LIBRARY CONFERENCE OF 1898.\*

ONE of the interesting events of the library year 1898 was the international conference called to deliberate on the preservation of ancient manuscripts, held in St. Gall, Switzerland, on Sept. 30 last. The meeting was the result of an invitation sent out by Fr. Ehrle, prefect of the Vatican Library, and it was attended by 18 delegates, 11 of whom were official delegates of as many governments, the others being delegates from the Society of Librarians of Switzerland and from the Bodleian Library.

The organizing committee, under the presidency of Fr. Ehrle, had secured as a meeting place from the government of the Canton of St. Gall a magnificent room, adjoining the renowned library of the ancient monastery of St. Gall, which offered entire security for the valuable codexes brought by some of the delegates to the conference. The opening session was presided over by Fr. Ehrle, who, after an address of welcome, announced Prof. Theodore Mommsen, of Berlin, as honorary president; Dr. De Vries, of Leyden, as acting president, and Dr. Escher, of Zurich, and M. Omont, of Paris, as secretaries.

It was decided that subjects to be considered should be taken up in the following order: 1, Restoration of ancient mss. affected by corrosion only; 2, Restoration of palimpsests in which corrosion is complicated by the acids used in bringing out the original writing; 3, Restoration of mss. on paper. Manuscripts in all three states were exhibited, and a general discussion followed, which resulted in the unanimous adoption of the following resolutions:

1. That there be compiled a list of the oldest and most important codexes, which seem destined to sure destruction.

2. That the codexes comprised in said list be photographed, in order that a knowledge of their condition at present be preserved.

\* The proceedings of the conference are reported in the *Revue de la Bibliothèque*, for November, 1898, p. 168, and there is a full report by Fr. Ehrle in the *Centralblatt*, Jan.-Feb., 1899, p. 27-51.

3. That a permanent committee be appointed, to which shall be assigned the following duties:

a. The compilation of the aforesaid list.

b. Aid in the photographic work aforesaid.

c. Study of the different methods of restoration and a recommendation of those considered most advantageous.

d. Communication in print as to the methods of restoration proposed in the conference.

e. The establishment for this purpose of relations with librarians and technical specialists.

f. The obtaining from the various governments of the means necessary to carry out the aforesaid work.

The first member named of this committee was Fr. Ehrle, who was invited to choose two co-workers, and who named Dr. De Vries, of Leyden, and Prof. Zangemeister, of Heidelberg. The committee was empowered to add to its numbers if desired.

Among other subjects presented at the meeting the project of an international central laboratory soon to be established near the Vatican Library was described. This laboratory is to be for the purpose of photographic work as well as for that of restoration, and for the parchments and maps of archives as well as the mss. of libraries.

The conference closed on Oct. 1, after two sessions of three hours each, and the official copy of the resolutions was ready for the signatures of the members at the end of the last session.

#### ANNOTATED BIBLIOGRAPHY OF AMERICAN HISTORY.

As this work grows under the hands of its editor, Mr. J. N. Larned, it seems probable that it may contain as many as 1800 titles. About one-third of the whole, with their notes, are already on the editor's table. His contributors are: James Bain, jr., Toronto, Canada; A. C. Bates, Connecticut Historical Society; Prof. Bourne, Yale Univ.; Prof. Catterall, Univ. of Chicago; Prof. Channing, Harvard Univ.; Prof. Colby, McGill Univ.; Prof. Collins, Princeton Univ.; Dr. Elliott Coues, Washington, D. C.; Prof. D. R. Dewey, Mass. Inst. of Technology; Prof. Ficklen, Tulane Univ.; W. E. Foster, Providence, R. I.; Prof. Hinsdale, Univ. of Mich.; F. W. Hodge, U. S. Bureau of Ethnology, Washington, D. C.; Dr. J. K. Hosmer, Minneapolis, Minn.; Rev. H. W. Hulbert, Cleveland, O.; Prof. Macdonald, Bowdoin College; Prof. McLaughlin, Univ. of Mich.; Prof. Miller, Univ. of Chicago; J. G. Nicolay, Washington, D. C.; Prof. Osgood, Columbia Univ.; Prof. Richardson, Princeton Univ.; Prof. Sparks, Univ. of Chicago; R. G. Thwaites, State Historical Society of Wisconsin; Dr. Stephen B. Weeks, U. S. Bureau of Education, Washington, D. C.; G. P. Winship, Providence, R. I.

Mr. Paul Leicester Ford contributes a "Review of the documentary sources of American history," and in the book edition of the bibliography every source he mentions will receive detailed reference. For this edition a series of

selected titles of articles, reviews, reports, and the like is now being compiled under Mr. Larned's direction; other aids to the reader and student will appear as appendices. Before issuing the work to the public it will be linotyped in cheap form, so as to be criticised as a whole by a circle of specialists, and suitably revised.

As the contributors are receiving adequate compensation, the cost of the work, including publishing expenses, may reach \$10,000. This, of course, takes in the card edition for direct use in the catalogs of public libraries. The proceeds of sales will be applied to maintaining the "appraisal" month by month, or at any other comparatively brief interval, so that subscribers may have their guidance strictly up to date. It is proposed every third or fourth year to reissue the book edition, revised and enlarged, so as to meet the demands of individual readers and students.

G: ILES.

### LIBRARY SECTION, N. E. A.

THE N. E. A. committee on the relation of public libraries to public schools is actively engaged upon the report to be submitted to the N. E. A. at its annual meeting in July. The various points to be considered have been divided among the various members of the committee as follows:

Superintendent Sherman Williams, of Glens Falls, N. Y. — List of books to be recommended for pupils in grades 1 to 12, with special reference to the average country school teacher and the average grade teacher. Mr. Williams is also to consider and report on the subject of the use of books and libraries in grammar grades throughout the country.

F. A. Hutchins. — The relations existing between libraries and schools in the country districts and country towns of the United States. Mr. Hutchins will also prepare a brief outline which may help a country or village teacher to improve her local library, or to organize a library in a country district if one does not exist.

M. Louise Jones, State Normal School, Emporia, Kansas. — The work of normal schools throughout the country (with special reference to a few typical schools) in familiarizing their pupils with the use of books in the school room, the organizing and forming of a library in a small community, the selection of books, etc.

Charles McMurray, State Normal School, Normal, Ill. — Books and libraries in grades 1 to 4 in the country generally. This, it is understood, covers the whole field, not simply of the use of books in connection with study in the school room, but the beginnings of children's reading in every department in school and at home.

J. C. Dana, City Library, Springfield, Mass. — The attitude of libraries towards schools and the promotion of the right kind of feeling on the part of the librarian towards the teachers, with special reference to a few typical libraries.

It is the opinion of the committee that while it should endeavor to cover its field as much as time permits, and to make as full and helpful a

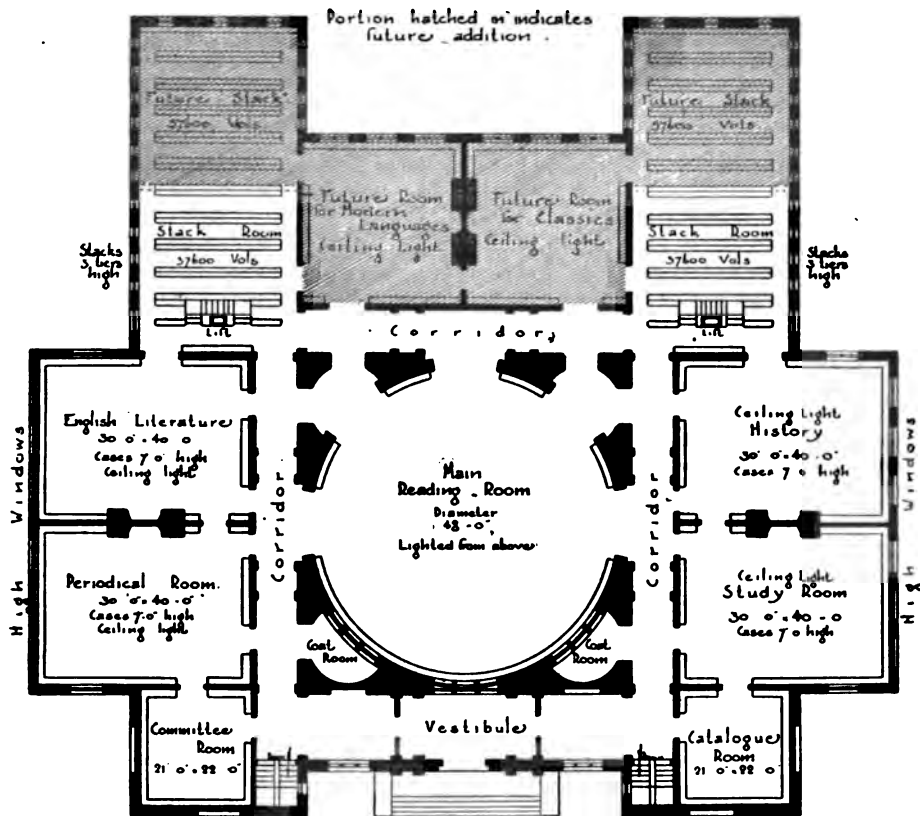
report as possible, no small part of the value of its efforts will come from the added publicity of the subject it has under consideration. While very many communities have been aroused within recent years to the importance of close relations between schools and libraries, a good many have not as yet given it any consideration, and a still larger number have not as yet realized what can be done even in a modest way in a small community.

It is hoped that all librarians or teachers interested in the subject and willing to contribute reports of practical experience or opinions as to method will communicate directly with the chairman, J. C. Dana, Springfield, Mass.

### LEARNING THE ALPHABET.

*From the Library Newsletter, Osterhout Free Library, Wilkesbarre, Pa.*

We have heard that the learning of the alphabet by rote, the old-fashioned way, is not so generally practiced in school as it used to be. Years ago it was as much a part of the child's education to "say the alphabet" as to learn each individual letter. The new method of learning to read may have something to do with the disuse of memorizing the alphabet, but whatever is the reason, the omission to teach the arrangement of the alphabet so thoroughly that it comes as easily to the memory as one's own name (we used to say "as easy as A B C") is a very grave fault. Little children should be required to say it and sing it until it is a part of themselves. So many things in this world are arranged alphabetically that it is cruel to allow the child to grow up in ignorance of it. A boy, apparently 14 years of age, came to the library the other day. He wished to write up about a certain city, and was given the volume of the cyclopædia which contained it. He sat some time turning the leaves back and forth, wholly unable to find the name although he could spell it correctly. We found out that *he did not know his alphabet!* It is difficult to realize how such a boy will be handicapped through life just because his education in that direction has been neglected. The dictionary will be a sealed book to him; the directory a puzzle; indexes will not be of the slightest aid, whether in books or ledgers, and a thousand other things will never to his mind manifest any intelligent order. Singing the alphabet is one of the best ways to teach it to the little ones, for they will sing it to themselves out of school, and so it will become a part of their most intimate knowledge. We do not know if the alphabet is neglected in Wilkesbarre schools, but we do know that children who are old enough to be able to find a word in an alphabetical arrangement find it difficult to do so. Out of six children to whom were given cyclopædias containing the name of the city they wished to write about, *not one* was able to find the name alone. A little training in that line would be a very useful exercise. Five of them seemed to know the alphabet, but could not make a practical use of their knowledge.



Design for New Library Building  
for  
• WELLESLEY COLLEGE •  
Hartwell, Richardson and Driver  
Architects  
Boston, Mass.

#### DESIGN FOR A NEW LIBRARY BUILDING FOR WELLESLEY COLLEGE.

THIS design was published originally as a leaflet and in the *Wellesley Magazine*, January, 1897, with an article showing how entirely inadequate the present library accommodations are, and making a plea for a new library building. The leaflet and magazine are now out of print, and the design is republished owing to requests for a copy of it from other libraries. The plea for a new building closes with the following statement:

"That something definite may be offered for consideration, the following sketch plan for a college library is submitted by the librarian, as a suggestion of what may be considered as specially adapted to our needs."

It is suggested that the building be of yellow brick, with light Cleveland sandstone trimmings; that the inside be finished in the same brick and sandstone, except that in the reference room tiling be used; that the stacks be

fire-proof, and the rest of the building of slow-burning construction. That the first floor (or basement) be built high, and furnish several study or storage rooms, an unpacking room, cloak rooms, etc. That the stacks be finished with white brick, and be of three tiers of seven-foot shelving, the middle one on a level with the main library floor, and that the walls be about 25 feet high. That the department or study rooms be open to the roof, the walls being 16 feet high.

The department rooms are expected to shelve about 6000 volumes each, and to accommodate about 30 readers, and the main reference room to accommodate 75 readers and shelve 8000 volumes. It is supposed that works in science will be located with the scientific laboratories, and art works in the Farnsworth Art Building. It is expected that free access to the shelves will be granted in reference and study rooms, and by application to the stacks.

Such a building would shelve nearly 275,000 volumes, and would probably cost about

\$200,000. If necessary, for immediate needs the cost could be reduced to \$150,000, by omitting the portion of the plan hatched in.

The plan as originally drawn considered that future additions would extend the stacks so as to form two sides of an open court, while a fourth side would furnish two or four more department study rooms. In the plan as now given it is expected that the department of philosophy will have a psychological laboratory and study room under the periodical and literature room, and economics under that of history, but that ultimately these departments would take the rooms now assigned to modern languages and classics, while the latter would move across the court. This arrangement will accomplish the special aim of the plan, which is to provide for each main department of the college a special study room directly connected with the stack containing its literature.

As funds to build this library are still lacking, and the plan exists only on paper, criticisms and suggestions are invited.

LYDIA B. GODFREY, *Librarian*.

#### CONTROL OF TRAVELLING LIBRARIES.

THE *Midland Monthly* for December, 1898, contained an article on "The library movement," by Johnson Brigham, editor, state librarian of Iowa, which deals especially with the travelling library system in operation in Iowa under the exclusive direction of the state librarian. The question whether a travelling library system should be under the control of the state library or of a state commission is the point especially dwelt upon, and as to this Mr. Brigham confesses to a radical change of view. He says: "When I entered upon the duties of the office of state librarian I thought the state could so thoroughly and completely handle the travelling library that there would be no need of help from any source. And when last winter I was urged to support a library commission bill I feared a commission might hamper, not help, the work of the travelling library as inaugurated by the state. I felt that the enterprise to which the state was committed was entitled to a fuller and fairer trial than it had then had.

"I now am sure that while the state can do much, it cannot do all that reasonably may be expected of a travelling library. It is doing its present work well. I have no doubt it will continue to do well within certain limitations. But I shall regard the state's work in this field as a failure, or at least only a partial success, unless it shall healthfully stimulate local library missionary work in every one of Iowa's 99 counties.

"My hope is that in the near coming time many of the communities now enjoying the blessings of the travelling library will have outgrown the need of it as a stated supply and will have become the nuclei, or at least the active supporters, of a local library system which shall carry to the back towns of the county the blessings they themselves now prize so highly.

"The state should, as far and fast as possible, transfer the general travelling library to local organizations, and gradually increase its facilities for special and temporary help to individuals, to clubs and other organizations, and to small public libraries.

"In a few years at the longest the state will be compelled to face an interesting alternative, one of the many gratifying alternatives imposed by growth and progress. It is this: Shall the state go on increasing its regular travelling libraries to upwards of 2000 and so attempt to cover the 99 counties within its limits? Or shall it create a library commission to co-operate with its own travelling library department on the one hand and with all interested local associations on the other, for the development of the library spirit, the dissemination of library information, and the organization of local libraries?

"From all I know of the workings of the library commission in the states of Connecticut, Georgia, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, Ohio, Vermont, and Wisconsin—notably in Wisconsin, under the efficient administration of Miss Stearns and Mr. Hutchins—I regard that alternative as altogether better—more economical, more helpful, and therefore more popular, and more nearly in line with our popularly accepted theory of local self-government."

#### FREE PUBLIC LIBRARIES IN GERMANY.

IN the *Börsenblatt* for December 5, 1898, appeared an article by Dr. A. Gräsel, making a strong plea for the establishment of public libraries in the smaller cities of Germany, to be managed according to English and American methods. The idea of the public library provided for by taxation and intended for all classes of the community is described in detail by the writer, who points out how entirely different is the German free library, intended only for the very poor, and filled with heterogeneous volumes given from charitable impulse. The beginnings of public libraries in Germany are cited as follows: The German Society of Ethical Culture has established libraries in Berlin, Freiburg, and Frankfurt. In Jena this society worked hand in hand with the Comenius Society, and funds are promised for libraries in Schweidnitz, Breslau, Königsberg, Magdeburg, and Bonn. In Dresden the Association Volkswohl opened reading-rooms in its building, and reading-rooms were also opened at Mainz through the generosity of a private citizen. In Düsseldorf a citizen gave 15,000 marks (\$3750) for the opening of a reading-room, and in January, 1898, a public library and reading-room was finally opened at Charlottenburg that seems really to have grasped American methods in its management. "Whether the present generation will see Germany supplied with a network of free public libraries," says Dr. Gräsel, "no one as yet can say. But that the stone has at last begun to roll cannot be denied. Let every one who is convinced of the importance of the question loyally strive to do his part towards furthering the good work."



## American Library Association.

*President:* William C. Lane, Harvard University Library, Cambridge, Mass.

*Secretary:* Henry J. Carr, Public Library, Scranton, Pa.

*Treasurer:* Gardner M. Jones, Public Library, Salem, Mass.

ATLANTA CONFERENCE, MAY 8-13, 1899.

### SOCIAL PLANS.

PLANS for the reception and entertainment of the delegates to the Atlanta meeting of the A. L. A., to be held May 8 to 15, are developing excellently, and all indications point to a most enjoyable conference, from the local end at least. A meeting of the local committee was held on Jan. 11, when some interesting plans were outlined. It is desired to make the social side of the conference entirely successful and truly southern in character and local coloring. Among the entertainments planned are an old-fashioned Georgia barbecue, to be held at Stone Mountain; a genuine "coon dance" and a possible "cake walk" (not of the A. L. A. variety), a trolley ride about the city, and several informal receptions. An afternoon and evening will be spent at the Piedmont Driving Club, where supper, followed by an informal dance, will be enjoyed. A public meeting will also be held in the opera house, at which short addresses will be made on library development, and stereopticon views illustrating library architecture will be given.

Dr. H. C. White, of the University of Georgia, was present at the session, and extended an invitation from the faculty of the University of Georgia to the librarians to spend one day in Athens as the guests of the university. If transportation arrangements can be perfected it is probable that the invitation will be accepted and the northern visitors be given a glimpse of the historic grounds about the university.

All communications regarding the meeting should be addressed to Miss Anne Wallace, Young Men's Library, Atlanta.

### NOTES.

The actual business of the meeting will cover the dates May 8-13, and a post-conference has been arranged extending from May 13-20. The subjects to be covered by the program are Library extension, Access to shelves, and Co-operation; papers will be short, and ample time will be given for discussion.

Headquarters will be at the Kimball House, where a rate of \$2.50 a day will be made. The daily sessions will be held in the ballroom, on the third floor, which is removed from noise and should make a pleasant auditorium. Ample room will be provided for section meetings and for the usual library exhibit.

It is proposed to spend two days at Lookout Mountain, Tennessee, as part of the post-conference trip. This will give opportunity to visit the National Park at Chickamauga and to see the battlefields of the Civil War. "Lookout Inn" is a famous hostelry, and every effort

will be made to make the trip a delightful rest after the conference week.

The local committee has issued an attractive announcement, in the form of a card, containing a view of "the heart of Atlanta" and a calendar for the month of May, and giving on the reverse side the information previously noted. A record of the mean daily temperature in Atlanta during the second week of May for the past eight years is also given, showing an average range of from 60° to 78°. It is announced that "May is the most beautiful of months. The trees are in full foliage and the roses in full bloom. The local committee regrets that the season is too early for the Georgia watermelon, but promises other local products."

### TRAVEL ARRANGEMENTS.

At this time the secretary is able to announce that the Southeastern and Trunk Line Passenger Associations have made a rate of a fare and one-third on the usual certificate plan, which means going and coming by the same route. Following their action, it is to be expected that like terms will be authorized by the other traffic associations, so as to include all parts of the United States from which may be expected an attendance of 25 or more.

The members of the A. L. A. residing in the eastern states have expressed a desire for a break in the journey, both going to and coming from Atlanta. Arrangements having that end in view are now under way, and the plan which will probably be carried out is something like this:

Leave Boston Friday evening, May 5, via Fall River Line, spend one day at Old Point Comfort, taking train Sunday night for Atlanta, which city will be reached Monday afternoon. On the return trip the party will leave Atlanta Saturday, May 13, and remain over Sunday at Lookout Mountain. From this point a drive to the battlefield of Chickamauga will probably be taken Saturday afternoon. Monday morning, May 15, the party will take train and come through direct to Washington, where a stay of one day will be provided. The tickets will allow a stopover in Washington for as long as may be desired.

The expenses of this trip, including railroad fare, sleepers, and hotels *en route*, will be in the neighborhood of \$65 from Boston; from New York, \$55; from Philadelphia, Baltimore, and Washington, corresponding reductions. To this amount should be added the cost of board in Atlanta, at the Kimball House, which will be the headquarters, at \$2.50 per day. Miss Wallace is arranging to accommodate any who wish to obtain board at a lower rate. The total cost of the trip from Boston to Boston will thus be brought within \$75. If enough members desire to visit Ashville and Richmond on the return trip, these places may possibly be included at a cost of about \$13 extra.

As soon as arrangements are completed, the secretary will issue a special circular covering all necessary features. In the meantime, if more detailed information is desired, members

are requested to communicate with F. W. Faxon, No. 15½ Beacon street, Boston, Mass., who is acting in behalf of the New England members, or Frank P. Hill, Public Library, Newark, N. J., in behalf of the New York and Pennsylvania members. HENRY J. CARR, *Secretary*.

### State Library Commissions.

CONNECTICUT F. P. L. COMMITTEE: Caroline M. Hewins, secretary, Public Library, Hartford, Ct.

A "neighborhood meeting" of librarians, library directors, and teachers from towns within 15 or 20 miles of Hartford was held on the morning of Jan. 16 in the Hartford Public Library. The meeting was under the auspices of the Connecticut Public Library Committee, for the benefit of the librarians and teachers of the smaller towns who are unable to attend meetings of the state library association. Mr. Hine, chairman of the committee, presided, and made the opening speech, explaining the work of the committee, which since its appointment in 1893 has seen 45 town libraries established in the state. One town only has refused to comply with the state law, which requires an annual appropriation, has returned its books, and no longer owns a library.

Miss Hewins, of the Hartford Public Library, under the title of "What the country library and the country school can do for each other," gave an exhibition of part of the material collected by her for the A. L. A. meeting at Lakewood, and also showed pictures from illustrated papers and magazines mounted for school use.

W. I. Fletcher, of Amherst College Library, spoke on "Progress the note in library and school work," referring to the difference in the libraries of Hartford now and 25 years ago, when he was first a librarian there. He spoke of the coming in of the new library era with the adoption of the New Hampshire library law in 1849, and of another epoch marked by the birth of the American Library Association in the centennial year. Mr. Fletcher urged every one present to remember that in order to be progressive all library methods must be elastic and adaptable. After describing recent changes and "survivals of the fittest," in cataloging, charging systems, and classifications, he referred to the study of art and literature, in which schools and libraries can work together, quoting Horace Mann on the subject, and saying that all the library methods of the future will be affected by the relation of libraries and schools.

GEORGIA LIBRARY COMMISSION: Miss Anne Wallace, secretary, Young Men's Library, Atlanta, Ga.

MASSACHUSETTS STATE L. COMMISSION: Miss E. P. Sohler, secretary, Beverly.

NEW HAMPSHIRE STATE L. COMMISSION: J. H. Whittier, secretary, East Rochester.

NEW YORK: Public Libraries Division, State University, Melvil Dewey, director, Albany.

OHIO STATE L. COMMISSION: C. B. Galbreath, secretary, State Library, Columbus.

VERMONT LIBRARY COMMISSION: Miss M. L. Titcomb, secretary, Public Library, Rutland.

WISCONSIN F. L. COMMISSION: F. A. Hutchins, secretary, Madison; Miss L. E. Stearns, librarian, Milwaukee.

### State Library Associations.

#### CALIFORNIA LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.

*President*: F. J. Teggart, Mechanics' Institute Library, San Francisco.

*Treasurer*: Miss Emily I. Wade, Public Library, San Francisco.

#### COLORADO LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.

*President*: A. E. Whitaker, State University Library, Boulder.

*Secretary*: Herbert E. Richie, City Library, Denver.

*Treasurer*: J. W. Chapman, McClelland Library, Pueblo.

#### CONNECTICUT LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.

*President*: Frank B. Gay, Watkinson Library, Hartford.

*Secretary*: Miss Angeline Scott, Public Library, South Norwalk.

*Treasurer*: Miss Anna G. Rockwell, New Britain Institute, New Britain.

#### GEORGIA LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.

*President*: Miss Anne Wallace, Young Men's Library, Atlanta.

*Secretary-Treasurer*: C. W. Hubner, Atlanta.

#### ILLINOIS STATE LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.

*President*: J. W. Thompson, Evanston.

*Secretary*: Miss Cornelia Marvin, Scoville Institute, Oak Park.

*Treasurer*: Mrs. Josephine Resor, Public Library, Canton.

The Illinois State Library Association will hold its annual meeting at Champaign, Feb. 22, 1899. This meeting place was asked for by the librarians of the state, that they might have an opportunity to inspect the state library school and other departments of the state university.

The special topic of the meeting will be "The Library Commission for Illinois." The librarians and the club women of the state are working for the commission bill which it is hoped will be passed this winter. Other topics on the program are "Libraries and schools," "Care of government documents," "Teaching the use of reference books," "Travelling libraries," "Libraries of Illinois and the outlook," "Special libraries for defective and delinquent classes."

CORNELIA MARVIN, *Secretary*.

#### INDIANA LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.

*President*: W. E. Henry, State Library, Indianapolis.

*Secretary*: Miss Belle S. Hanna, Public Library, Greencastle.

*Treasurer*: Miss Jessie Allen, Public Library, Indianapolis.

## IOWA STATE LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.

**President:** W. H. Johnston, Public Library, Fort Dodge.

**Secretary and Treasurer:** Miss Ella McLoney, Public Library, Des Moines.

## MAINE LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.

**President:** E. W. Hall, Colby University, Waterville.

**Treasurer:** Prof. G. T. Little, Bowdoin College, Brunswick.

## MASSACHUSETTS LIBRARY CLUB.

**President:** W. H. Tillinghast, Harvard University Library.

**Secretary:** H. C. Wellman, Public Library, Brookline.

**Treasurer:** Miss Margaret D. McGuffy, Public Library, Boston.

The winter meeting of the Massachusetts Library Club was opened at 2.30 p.m. on Thursday, Feb. 9, at the Boston Public Library, in the new lecture hall, Mr. Tillinghast, the president, in the chair. After a few preliminary announcements, Mr. Putnam explained the structural changes made in the building. The members were then divided into groups and conducted by employees of the library to the various points of interest.

At four o'clock the meeting was again called to order. The president reported that the Hay Path Library Club would hold a meeting at Spencer on Feb. 27, the first session to be devoted to "The public library and the public school," the second to discussion of a charging system. Miss McGuffy was chosen to act as a delegate from the Massachusetts Library Club. Mr. Tillinghast also reported that the Western Massachusetts Library Club would hold a joint meeting of teachers and librarians at the Westfield Normal School on March 27.

Two appeals for help were made in behalf of the library at Jacksonville, Fla., and in behalf of the Penobscot Indians, Maine.

The following report was made by the secretary relating to the Massachusetts document index:

"At the last meeting of the club the executive committee was directed to consider the matter of issuing an analytical catalog of the set of the Massachusetts public documents which is issued in 10 or 12 volumes yearly, and was empowered to receive subscriptions, if that seemed expedient.

"It was thought proper, as a first step, to ascertain what had been done at the state library in the way of cataloging these documents and what was likely to be done in the future. It appeared that the state library had recently prepared an elaborate annotated list of state publications for the catalog of official publications of the several states which Mr. Bowker is preparing to publish. This, however, did not analyze the contents of the various reports.

"Mr. Tillinghast expressed to the secretary his interest in the suggestion of the club, and his regret that the state library could not undertake the work; but he said that if the club would prepare the copy of such an annual analytical catalog or index in satisfactory form,

and would oversee the printing and proof-reading, he would pay the whole cost of printing, and would cause the cards to be distributed with the documents to all libraries, both within and outside of the state, which receive the set of documents. Several interviews with Mr. Tillinghast upon this matter have been held by the secretary and president.

"Upon consultation with Mr. Lane, secretary of the Publishing Section of the A. L. A., it appeared that the section would receive the copy from the club and deliver the printed cards to the state library, thus relieving the club of the direct oversight of the arrangements with the printer; or, if the club desired, the section would assume the entire charge of preparing the copy and printing the cards if the club would pay simply the cost of having the copy made—that is, the club would then pay for the work of cataloging, but would not itself employ the cataloger. The Publishing Section would undertake without charge to get the printing done, and the state would pay for the printing and the distribution of the cards.

"It seemed to the committee that the advantages of the plan outlined, so far as related to the co-operation with the state, were so great that they ought not to be lost, even though it involved an expense to the club which it would probably not have to bear under the original plan of selling the cards by subscription. The committee therefore decided to cause a catalog of the volumes for 1897 (which have just been distributed) to be prepared on the following plan and submitted to printers for estimates of the cost of printing:

"1. A card to be made for each report contained in the set, which should read after this fashion:

MASS.—*Secretary of State*. Annual report. Published since 18—. In Mass. Public Docs. since 18—.

"These cards, of course, are to be issued this year once for all, and will not be repeated unless a change in the form of the report makes it necessary.

"We are enabled to give the notes elucidating the history of the various reports by the generous kindness of Mr. Bowker, who sent us a copy of the proof of the list prepared by the state library, with permission to make use of it in our catalog. Without this gift the cost of preparing this information would probably have been beyond the means of the club.

"2. A card to be prepared for each appendix, special report, and every feature of particular interest in the regular reports. Such cards will, of course, be annually issued as each year's set of documents appears, and the preparation of this will form the regular charge in the club.

"There will be issued for each title an author card and the necessary number of subject cards having the proper subject headings. Of course, for some of the analyticals no author cards may be necessary.

"When the cards are ready for distribution Mr. Tillinghast wishes that they should be accompanied by a circular in the name of the club calling attention to the value of the cards

and advising that they be put into the catalog; or, in case a library has no card catalog, that they be made accessible to the public in some way.

"It is thought that the documents for 1897 will furnish about 60 titles of regular reports to be finally cataloged at once, and about 50 titles of analyticals. The cost of the catalog to the club this first and most expensive year will hardly exceed \$10 or \$12."

As a result of this report the following resolutions were adopted:

*"Resolved,* That the Massachusetts Library Club accept with pleasure the offer of the state library to bear the cost of printing and distributing an analytical catalog of the Massachusetts Public Documents to be prepared by the club.

*"Resolved,* That the executive committee shall forthwith cause such a catalog of the documents of 1897 to be prepared at the cost of the club and after the general plan set forth in this report, issued by such arrangements with the state library and the Publishing Section as shall seem to the committee expedient.

*"Resolved,* That the club extends its thanks to Mr. Tillinghast for the encouraging interest he has taken in this matter, and to Mr. R. R. Bowker for permission to use in the proposed catalog the annotations in his list of the Massachusetts public documents."

The fiction list was again discussed, but no decision was made as to its continuance and usefulness.

It was expected that Mr. L. A. Whittier, head proof-reader at the Riverside Press, would read a paper on "The art of printing, with hints on proof-reading and the preparation of manuscript." Unfortunately, Mr. Whittier had met with an injury so severe as to prevent his attendance, and those who were to open the discussion on the paper were called upon to speak without the inspiration afforded by the expected paper.

Mr. G. M. Jones made special reference to the job printing required by libraries, and spoke feelingly of the trials of the librarian with the printer.

Mr. Francis Watts Lee, in charge of the printing department of the Boston Public Library, spoke from the printer's standpoint. He explained the work of the linotype, as used in his department, its advantages, and the points of danger for the proof-reader.

Mr. John Wilson, of the University Press, spoke on proof-reading, and cited well-known examples of wrong punctuation due to inefficient proof-readers. He strongly objected to the use of lower-case letters for titles of books in library catalogs.

Mr. Faxon gave an enthusiastic account of the plans for the Atlanta meeting, and Mr. Lane spoke for the Publishing Section, telling of the annotated titles of books in English history and of the cards for the Warner "Library of the world's best books."

In continuance of the reports given at the last meeting on the work of the normal schools it was voted that the secretary be requested to send to the normal schools of New England such inquiries as he sees fit relative to the instruction of normal students in the methods of interesting and familiarizing children in the use of books and prepare a report on the answers, with any suggestions germane to the topic, for a later meeting of the club.

The meeting adjourned till evening. At 7.30 Mr. Putnam showed slides of various library buildings, illustrating the gradual growth from the simple ancient forms to the elaborate differentiated forms of the present day.

NINA E. BROWNE, *Recorder.*

#### MICHIGAN LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.

*President:* H. M. Utley, Public Library, Detroit.

*Secretary:* Mrs. A. F. McDonnell, Bay City.

*Treasurer:* Miss Genevieve M. Walton, Normal College Library, Ypsilanti.

#### MINNESOTA LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.

*President:* Dr. W. W. Folwell, State University, Minneapolis.

*Secretary:* Miss Gratia Countryman, Public Library, Minneapolis.

*Treasurer:* Miss Anne Hammond, Public Library, St. Paul.

#### NEBRASKA LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.

*President:* W. E. Jillson, Doane College, Crete.

*Secretary:* Miss Edith Tobitt, Public Library, Omaha.

*Treasurer:* Miss M. A. O'Brien, Public Library, Omaha.

#### NEW HAMPSHIRE LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.

*President:* A. H. Chase, Concord.

*Secretary:* Miss Grace Blanchard, Public Library, Concord.

*Treasurer:* Miss E. A. Pickering, Public Library, Newington.

The New Hampshire Library Association held a successful annual meeting in Portsmouth on Jan. 25. The executive board was re-elected as follows: President, A. H. Chase, state librarian, Concord; Vice-presidents, Col. Daniel Hall, Dover; Prof. M. D. Bisbee, Hanover; Treasurer, Miss E. A. Pickering, Newington; Secretary, Miss Grace Blanchard, Concord.

The meeting was held in the County Court room, and opened with a welcome from the Mayor of Portsmouth. The forenoon session was devoted to regular business, questions and answers, and suggestions. Mr. Chase spoke of his hope of making the state library a clearing house for duplicates and gift matter throughout New Hampshire, and the project met the approval of those present.

Mr. O. S. Davis, of Lakeport, wished the consensus of the association on liberal library administration put into tangible form, that it might be used as a lever with trustees to secure their permission to make desirable changes. The association therefore moved the adoption of the following recommendations:

"It is suggested as very undesirable that there should be a fixed rule limiting the use of library books by children, either as to the age of the applicant or the guarantee required. Such matters might well be left to the judgment of the librarian."

"It is recommended that special efforts be made by library officials throughout the state, to the end that the fullest co-operation may be secured between the library and the public schools; and that rules be adopted allowing teachers to draw books for use in school work as the local needs may require."

"It is recommended that the privileges of the public library be extended to all classes in the community, including temporary residents; and that no restrictive rules be adopted except such as may have been found from experience to be necessary to protect the property of the library."

The president, Mr. Chase, being called away at noon, the chair was occupied in the afternoon by Mr. Davis.

Two papers were presented. In the first, Mr. Sam Walter Foss, librarian of Somerville, Mass., but a Portsmouth boy, inspired all who heard him by treating of "The inspirational value of public libraries." Mr. Foss's earnest suggestions were made most delightful by his play of humor.

In the second paper Miss Hattie L. Johnson, of Berlin, N. H., related her experiences as cataloger in the National Library at Dublin, and gave her impressions of other libraries in Ireland. That the Dublin staff was glad of the accession of this bright, enterprising American librarian no one in the audience doubted.

Mr. Foss gave much pleasure by reciting one of his poems, and the remaining time till adjournment at half-past four was profitably spent in practical discussion.

GRACE BLANCHARD, *Secretary*.

#### NEW JERSEY LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.

*President*: F. P. Hill, Free Public Library, Newark.

*Secretary*: Miss Clara W. Hunt, Free Public Library, Newark.

*Treasurer*: Miss Cecelia C. Lambert, Public Library, Passaic.

The success of former meetings of the library associations of two adjoining states has led the committee to call the third joint meeting of the Pennsylvania Library Club and the New Jersey Library Association, at Atlantic City, N. J., Friday to Monday, March 17-20, 1899. Those who are unable to come on Friday will enjoy attending the Saturday meetings and spending Sunday at the seaside.

The Grand Atlantic Hotel will serve as headquarters.

#### Hotel rates.

Friday to Monday, or any  
other 3 days, . . . \$2.25 per day.  
One week, . . . 15.00  
One day, . . . 2.50

Part of day at regular rates.

The following well-known people will take part in the proceedings: Dr. E. C. Richardson, Dr. Edward Allen, Mr. F. W. Chamberlain, Miss Helen E. Haines, Mr. John Ashhurst, Mr. A. E. Outerbridge, Dr. William Browning, Mrs. S. C. Fairchild, Mr. Henry J. Carr, Mr. R. R. Bowker.

The best train to reach Atlantic City is the one via the Pennsylvania Railroad leaving as follows:

West 23d street, . . . 1.50 p.m.  
Cortlandt or Desbrosses  
streets, . . . 2.10 "  
Brooklyn, . . . 1.55 "  
Jersey City, . . . 2.24 "

Newark, . . . 2.37 p.m.  
Trenton, . . . 3.42 "  
Philadelphia, foot of Market  
street, . . . 4.00 "  
Camden, . . . 4.06 "  
Arrive Atlantic City, . . . 5.20 "

Excursion tickets good to return within 10 days.

Tickets from New York are good via Camden or Philadelphia, with privilege of stopping over in Philadelphia within limit.

From Philadelphia other trains leave: Market street wharf, 9.00 a.m.; 2 p.m.; 5 p.m.

#### Railroad rates.

New York to Atlantic City and  
return, . . . \$4.75  
Newark to Atlantic City and  
return, . . . 4.75  
Philadelphia to Atlantic City and  
return, . . . 1.75

Members of other library clubs and friends in adjacent states are cordially invited to be present at all or part of this library conference and joint outing.

If a member of the Pennsylvania Library Club, send notification of intention to be present to Miss Mary P. Farr, secretary, 1217-1221 Chestnut street, Philadelphia, Pa. If of the New Jersey Association, in like manner to Miss Clara W. Hunt, secretary, Free Public Library, Newark, N. J.

#### NEW YORK LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.

*President*: A. L. Peck, Public Library, Gloversville.

*Secretary*: W. R. Eastman, State Library, Albany.

*Treasurer*: J. N. Wing, Chas. Scribner's Sons, 153 Fifth avenue, New York City.

#### OHIO LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.

*President*: Robinson Locke, Toledo.

*Secretary*: Charles Orr, Case Library, Cleveland.

*Treasurer*: Miss K. W. Sherwood, Public Library, Cincinnati.

The annual meeting of the Ohio Library Association will be held in Toledo in August. Efforts are now being made to secure a large attendance, especially of trustees.

#### PENNSYLVANIA LIBRARY CLUB.

*President*: James G. Barnwell, Library Company of Philadelphia.

*Secretary*: Miss Mary P. Farr, Philadelphia Normal School.

*Treasurer*: Miss Jean E. Graffen, Free Library of Philadelphia.

The usual March meeting of the club will be omitted, in view of the annual joint meeting with the New Jersey Library Club, to be held at Atlantic City, N. J., March 17-18.

#### WESTERN PENNSYLVANIA LIBRARY CLUB.

*President*: Miss Helen Sperry, Carnegie Library, Homestead.

*Secretary-Treasurer*: Miss Mary F. Macrum, Carnegie Library, Pittsburgh.

**VERMONT LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.**

*President:* Miss S. C. Hagar, Fletcher Free Library, Burlington.

*Secretary:* Miss M. L. Titcomb, Free Library, Rutland.

*Treasurer:* E. F. Holbrook, Proctor.

**WISCONSIN LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.**

*President:* Dr. E. A. Birge, City Library, Madison.

*Secretary:* Miss Agnes Van Valkenburgh, Public Library, Milwaukee.

*Treasurer:* Miss Maude A. Earley, Public Library, Chippewa Falls.

The annual meeting of the Wisconsin State Library Association will be held in the new library-museum building in Milwaukee, Feb. 22 and 23, 1899.

The session for the afternoon of Feb. 22 will be devoted to a discussion of the "Relation of the board of trustees to the librarian," and to a talk on "Bookbinding." In the evening there will be a short address on some subject of interest to librarians, followed by a social hour.

The closing meeting on the morning of Feb. 23 will consist of papers on "The club woman and the library" and "Public library extension," which will include all methods of making the small library a centre of interest and helpfulness in the community.

AGNES VAN VALKENBURGH, *Secretary.*

**NORTH WISCONSIN TRAVELLING LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.**

*President:* Mrs. E. E. Vaughn, Ashland.

*Secretary and Treasurer:* Miss Janet Green, Vaughn Library, Ashland.

**Library Clubs.****CHICAGO LIBRARY CLUB.**

*President:* H. W. Gates, Hammond Library.

*Secretary:* C. B. Roden, Public Library, Chicago.

*Treasurer:* Miss M. E. Ahern, *Public Libraries*, 215 Madison street.

In place of its regular business meeting the Chicago Library Club devoted the evening of Jan. 12 to the attractions of a "book party." The meeting was held in the rooms of the Library Bureau, which were appropriately decorated, and members and guests were requested to represent, by costume or symbol, the title of some book. In addition about 50 book titles were shown in pictures or odd combinations of articles, and prizes were offered for their correct solution. Music and recitations were pleasant features of the evening, which closed with an informal dance.

Owing to the extremely cold weather which prevailed throughout the week, the Chicago Library Club omitted its regular meeting, which was to have taken place on Thursday, Feb. 9, at the Chicago Public Library. The few members who braved the frigid blasts and appeared at the appointed hour were received by Mr. Hild, and their devotion was rewarded by a "personally conducted" tour through the new

building. The program arranged for this meeting will be given at the next regular meeting, March 9.

C. B. RODEN, *Secretary.*

**NEW YORK LIBRARY CLUB.**

*President:* Arthur E. Bostwick, N. Y. Free Circulating Library.

*Secretary:* Frank Weitenkamp, N. Y. Public Library.

*Treasurer:* Miss Theresa Hitchler, N. Y. Free Circulating Library.

**LIBRARY ASSOCIATION OF WASHINGTON CITY.**

*President:* Thorvald Solberg, Registrar of Copyrights.

*Secretary:* W. L. Boyden, Librarian Supreme Council 33° A. A. Order of Scottish Rite.

*Treasurer:* T. L. Cole, Statute Law Book Co.

The 36th regular meeting of the Library Association of Washington City was held at the Columbian University on Jan. 11, Dr. H. C. Bolton presiding. The executive committee reported the election to membership of Mr. Hugh Williams, of the Library of Congress, and of Miss A. S. S. Nicholson, of the Smithsonian Institution, formerly a member of this association; also the resignation of Miss Nannie E. Kuhlmann, Miss Carrie Cornell, and the Rev. A. H. Ames.

The declination of Mr. Thorvald Solberg as president of the association was read and accepted, and a new election was held, which resulted in the election of the former president, Dr. H. C. Bolton, who had served so efficiently during the past year. Capt. Howard L. Prince was elected on the executive committee, *vice* Dr. Bolton. The president announced the following appointments: Committee on program—Capt. Howard L. Prince, Hugh Morrison, Miss Josephine A. Clark; Committee on current events—Dr. Cyrus Adler, J. C. M. Hansen, Miss M. A. Gilkey, Wm. L. Boyden, F. H. Parsons.

The paper of the evening, "Henri Stein's 'Manuel de bibliographie,'" a critical review by Dr. H. C. Bolton and Mr. Charles Martel, was then read by Dr. Bolton. The paper pointed out only a few of the many inaccuracies in the work of Stein, due both to errors of omission and of commission, and particularly lamented the absence of an author list. But while they severely criticised the book, the reviewers stated that many of the errors were of a typographical character, and that it contained many valuable features of use to the student and the profession, although they were of the opinion that when consulted on important matters its statements should be corroborated or verified.

The paper provoked considerable discussion, brief remarks being made by Messrs. Martel, Hansen, Adler, Solberg, and Burchard.

Miss A. R. Hasse, a member and former vice-president of the association, now in New York, who was returning from a trip to California, stopped over in the city to be present at the meeting, and was warmly welcomed by her many friends.

WILLIAM L. BOYDEN, *Secretary.*

## Library Schools and Training Classes.

## COLORADO STATE NORMAL SCHOOL.

THE Colorado State Normal School, at Greeley, announces that if a sufficient demand is developed to warrant the enterprise a summer course in library training, covering four or six weeks, will be established this year. The usual instruction in library management, classification, binding, and repairing will be given, with special instruction concerning school-room libraries, school-room decoration, library fine art, and the study of pictures, casts, etc.

A class of 20 is necessary to ensure the giving of the course; no larger number will be accepted, but if desired, another class may be formed in drawing and art study for public school work. Arrangements for the proposed course are in charge of Dr. Z. X. Snyder, president, and Joseph F. Daniels, librarian of the State Normal School.

## NEW YORK STATE LIBRARY SCHOOL.

THE following bibliography and thesis subjects have been chosen by the senior class:

## Bibliography subjects.

Fröbel and the kindergarten. Aimée Guggenheimer.  
Annotated list of history for children. B. E. Hyatt.  
Books in Dutch relating to American history which are found in a few of the prominent libraries of the United States. A. J. F. van Laer.  
Social psychology. L. P. Lane.  
Society of the Cincinnati and the Loyal Legion. E. E. Miersch.  
Missouri in the civil war. B. E. Rombauer.  
Education. (Select.) R. K. Shaw.  
Child study for the librarian. (Reading list.) M. F. Williams.  
China and the Far East. Margaret Windeyer.  
Bibliography relating to the civil war. (Select.) P. L. Windsor.

That the bibliographies and reading lists prepared by students are of some interest and value is proved by the demand for those issued in the bibliographic series of the New York State Library bulletins and by frequent requests for the loan of ms. bibliographies. The suggestions and co-operation received from librarians and other educators are heartily appreciated by the school.

## Thesis subjects.

With two exceptions the class of 1899 are working on the library facilities of several important cities. Each thesis will be in the nature of a sociologic study, and will be accompanied by a map.

Names of cities.	Names of students.
Baltimore,	Miss Aimée Guggenheimer.
Boston,	L. P. Lane.
Brooklyn,	Miss E. E. Miersch.
Chicago,	P. L. Windsor.
New York,	R. K. Shaw.
Philadelphia,	A. J. F. van Laer.
St. Louis,	Miss B. E. Rombauer.
Washington,	Miss M. F. Williams.

Two other subjects are as follows:  
A study of children's reading. Miss B. E. Hyatt.  
Preparation for librarianship. Miss Margaret Windeyer.

## FAVORITE BOOKS FOR CHILDREN.

The class in children's work is indebted to Miss Mary E. Hawley for the following: A prize of Nansen's "Farthest north" was offered by *La Lecture*,\* published in Geneva, for the best library of 40 volumes for a 12 to 14 year old boy. Below is the prize list prepared by a mother and her son:

## Histoire.

Histoire de France, racontée à mes petits-enfants, Guizot.  
Histoire Suisse, Vuillemin.  
Histoire de Genève, Jullien.  
Vie des Grecs et des Romains, traduction abrégée de Plutarque, Alphonse Feillet.  
Télémaque, Fénelon.  
Abrégé de l'Illiade et de l'Odyssée.

## Science.

La vie des animaux, Franklin.  
Science amusante, Tom Tit.  
Sciences naturelles, Brehme.

## Œuvres d'Imagination.

Quentin Durward, W. Scott.  
Richard en Palestine, id.  
Ivanhoë, W. Scott.  
Inconnue dans l'histoire, Miss Yonge.  
Don Quichotte, Cervantès.  
La case de l'Oncle Tom, Mme. Beecher Stowe.  
Voyages de Gulliver, Swift.  
Les enfants du Capitaine Grant, Jules Verne.  
Mathias Sandorff, id.  
Le tour du monde in 80 jours, id.  
Vie de Collège en Angleterre, Laurie.  
Vie de Collège en Russie, id.  
Vie de Collège de Suède, id.  
St. Winifred, Farrar.  
Le collège d'Orville, Mrs. Wood.  
Petits hommes, Alcott.  
Deux ans au lycée, Pressensac.  
Le secret de José, Lucien Biart.  
Le coureur des bois, Ferry.  
Les trappeurs de l'Arkansas, Aymard.  
A fond de cale, Mayne-Reld.  
William le Mousse, id.  
L'Invasion, Erckmann-Chatrian.  
Le conscrit de 1813, id.  
Jacques l'Intépide, A. Chenevière.  
Sans famille, Hector Malot.  
Perdue, Gréville.  
Le voile bleu, Montgomery.  
Dans les Alpes, Spyri.  
Les enfants de Grütli, Spyri.  
Le dernier des Mohicans, Cooper.  
Le petit Lord, Burnett.  
Chrestomathie, Vinet, I.  
Magasin d'Éducation et de Récréation.  
Journal de la Jeunesse.  
Le St. Nicholas.†

## NEWS.

A library club, called the 020 Club, has been organized by the students. The officers are: President, Miss Mary Floyd Williams, '99; Vice-president, Mr. F. W. Ashley, 1900; Secretary-Treasurer, Miss Bertha Mower Brown, 1900.

In the reading seminar of Jan. 3 an interesting discussion was held on the question, "Should a public library subscribe for the *Ladies' Home Journal*?" A vote showed a large majority for the affirmative.

SALOME CUTLER FAIRCHILD.

\* Published under the auspices of the Geneva Society for the Advancement of People's Library Work.  
† Not a French edition of our *St. Nicholas*.

## PRATT INSTITUTE LIBRARY SCHOOL.

THE announcement of the course of 1899-1900, just issued, gives notice of some changes in detail. Entrance examinations will hereafter be held in the spring instead of in the fall, June 24, 1899, being the date of examinations for the coming year. Application blanks and full information may be obtained by addressing the director, Miss M. W. Plummer.

The regular first-year course is supplemented by two elective second-year courses, one devoted to advanced historical and bibliographical work, the other to a special course for training of children's librarians, given in connection with the kindergarten department of the institute. Arrangements for the latter course have just been perfected, and it will be first opened in October, 1900.

Miss Mary Williams and Miss Emily Turner, both of the class of '98, have been engaged to assist in the re-cataloging of the library of the University of Pennsylvania.

## UNIVERSITY OF PENNSYLVANIA LIBRARY SCHOOL.

On Feb. 1 the school contributed \$50 for the first library travelling library to be established in the state.

## SUMMER SCHOOL OF LIBRARY SCIENCE.

THE summer school of library science conducted by the University of Wisconsin, Madison, will hold its 17th annual session from July 1 to August 15, 1900. It will be directed by Miss Corrella Martin of Seattle Institute. Oak Park, Ill., who has conducted it for two years past and from whom application blanks and other information may be had.

## REVIEWS.

LIBRARY JOURNAL. General index, vols. 1-22 November 1897-December, 1897. N. Y. Am. Lib. Assn. 4-130 p. O.

THE 22 volumes of the LIBRARY JOURNAL ending December, 1897, are an inexhaustible storehouse of practical information upon every point of library economy, from the best way of making haste to the planning of a national library. The contributors are not mere closet idealists who evolve their theories, like the German philosopher's idea of the camel, from their inner consciousness, but practical librarians, whose articles embody the concentrated result of years of actual experience. Any ambitious young librarian whose library is not fortunate enough to possess a complete set of this invaluable work could not do better than devote its spare cash to the acquisition of the lacking volumes, and he will find them cheap at any price. A comparison between the LIBRARY JOURNAL and its rivals, both here and abroad, will only tend to establish the truth of the estimate of the writer as to its value. A glance over the contributions of the leading lights of the profession, such as Cutter, Dewey, Fletcher,

Foster, Green, Perkins, Poole, and Winsor, will show how wide is the range of studies of the American librarian. When we consider the astonishing development of library economy within the last 22 years, as compared with the 100 years preceding the establishment of the LIBRARY JOURNAL and the American Library Association, and when we further reflect that this progress is directly traceable to the influence wrought by these two unique and characteristically American products, the bird of freedom may surely be pardoned if he gives an extra flap to his wings and murmurs, like little Jack Horner, "What a good boy am I!"

The profession is to be congratulated that the compiler of the above volume, Mr. F. J. Teggart, has found time, as a pure work of love, to compile the invaluable index to these 22 volumes that has just been published, in a handsome volume of 130 pages, with ample room for ms. continuations for many years to come. Typographically and mechanically the work is beyond criticism. And as regards the general plan of preserving only what (in a comparative sense only) may be termed the wheat and discarding the chaff, it is surprising to note how little of value has escaped the appreciative skill of the compiler. In such headings as "Library economy and history," "Pseudonyms andonyms," "Notes and queries," "Librarians," "Humors and blunders," "State library associations," and many others, which deal with a mass of individual items, space is gained by merely giving a reference to the page of each volume where these items may be found. But since such references can give no help to find a particular item, still further space could have been saved by simply referring to the indexes of such volumes.

But while the general plan of the index is to be commended, it is to be regretted that in too many cases mere verbal distinctions should have been allowed to govern the choice of headings. In such cases as Catalog, Catalogs, and Cataloging; Charging system and Charging systems; Index, Indexes, Indexers, and Indexing, and many others, the difference in meaning is verbal, not mental—philological, but not logical.

We all know what a priceless boon the latest (third) edition of "Poole's index" is to scholars, notwithstanding its archaic methods of indexing. But it is to be regretted that the editor so strenuously insisted upon an adherence to the same crude methods that commended themselves to him when he made his first tentative effort, notwithstanding the friendly protests and criticisms of some of his collaborators, whose assistance certainly had some share in making the work what it is. Inasmuch as they were willing to sink their individuality, and shared neither in the glory nor profit of the enterprise, they were entitled to a more considerate hearing than was accorded them. It has always seemed to the writer that the main point of the celebrated "Symposium" was entirely missed by Mr. Poole, for his revised index shows the same adherence to merely



verbal distinctions that the "Symposium" wished to avoid. There may be grave doubts (excuse the pun) whether "Burial-grounds" and "Cemeteries" should be considered as exactly synonymous, but there certainly can be no excuse for making Index, Indexes, Indexer, Indexers, and Indexing separate headings, and it is therefore a surprise to the writer that the LIBRARY JOURNAL—the official organ of the profession—should allow itself to be represented by an index which, in too many cases, reverts to the protoplasmic stage of the cataloger's art. "Know ye not, my brethren, that the letter killeth, but the spirit giveth life?"

To make this point of the criticism still more intelligible, at the risk of being considered prolix, it may be considered from another and more logical point of view. In every transaction there are three distinct yet inseparable factors: the actor or agent, the act itself, and the product or result. As each of these may be considered as one or many, there is a possibility of six *verbal* headings for the same logical act. Thus an essay on the theory of cataloging might be labelled by one writer as "The art of the cataloger," by another as "The art of cataloging," by a third as "How to make catalogs," and by a fourth as "Catalogers and their art." To enter the first under "Cataloger" would be wrong, to enter the second under "Cataloging" would be right. But to put the third under "Catalogs" would be a blunder, and the fourth under "Catalogers" would be absurd; for one and all they treat of the *act* or art of cataloging. If, as Talleyrand contends, a blunder be worse than a crime, how shall we fittingly characterize the fourth and last stage of such bibliographical depravity?

When Mr. Jewett, in the first catalog of the Boston Public Library, reduced merely verbal differences to one heading, and placed the author first instead of last, the new type of catalog was born, as Mr. Cutter long ago pointed out in his article on cataloging in the government report. No one would now think of making a dictionary catalog such as Mr. Poole made of the Mercantile Library of Boston in 1854. And if catalogs are not to be so made, why should indexes? The art of cataloging is now too far advanced and too firmly established on a logical basis to permit of such an *ἀποκαταστάσις*.

It is to be hoped that if a future edition of the index should be needed the glaring fault just pointed out will be remedied by more up-to-date methods, and thus remove a blemish in an otherwise notable contribution to the indispensable tools of the library profession. It is also to be hoped that the younger generation of librarians especially will prove, in a pecuniary way, by purchasing this invaluable index, that they appreciate the compiler's labor of love in throwing open to them the endless resources of what may be termed, taking it all in all, the best manual of library economy the world has yet seen. The LIBRARY JOURNAL is a necessary and indispensable supplement to all other handbooks, and yet, possessing it alone, all other aids may be dispensed with.

JACOB SCHWARTZ.

STEIN, Henri. Manuel de bibliographie générale (bibliotheca bibliographica nova.) Paris, Picard, 1897. 20 + 895 p. O.

It seems to be the manner accepted of the general public for expressing approval of a librarian's work to say that Dr. Garnett or Mr. Spofford (as the case may be) can mention to you, offhand, all the books that have ever been written on the subject which happens to be the particular object of your interest, and that after you have exhausted all your own resources for information such men as these can reveal hidden treasures of which you had never dreamt.

Popular appreciation like this certainly argues that the function of supplying such knowledge is one of exceptional importance, but unfortunately not all readers have access to the limited number of Garnetts and Spoffords known to the bibliothecal profession, and so it is after all only by means of print that the desired information can be gained by all men alike. Hence has originated the "bibliography"—by which is understood a list, making some approach to completeness, of the publications on any given topic. The bibliography may attempt to give a list of the books which have been printed in or about a country or a town, by or about an author or a group of authors, or it may be of the literature of a subject—"geology" or the "gadfly," the "Roman empire" or the "Athenian secretaries," "Music" or the "Silver question."

Such compilations are reckoned upon increasingly as the necessary tools of modern science and literature, and to-day the wide-awake scholar turning to a new point invariably begins by asking for the bibliography which represents its literature. But where in the wide range of print is this new list to be found? A query which leads at once to the demand for a "bibliography of bibliographies." Not that the latter is a new thing, for it is almost two centuries and a half since Labbe (1664) published the first. But, though others essayed the same task, it was not until the appearance of Petzholdt's "Bibliotheca bibliographica" in 1866 that a satisfactory contribution was made; and, despite the efforts of his successors, including the present author, there has been no equally thorough performance since.

Petzholdt's work has justly been the object of unstinted praise during the past 30 years for its accurate and full presentation of the bibliographic literature of his day; but since it has long been out of date, bibliographers welcomed the announcement that M. Henri Stein was at work upon a supplement to it, which was to be carried out in the same thorough manner as the original. It is accordingly with no little regret that we must accept M. Stein's production as another example of modern inadequacy. In fact, the result of M. Stein's labors leaves the painful impression that he attempted something very much beyond his powers. The keynote of the whole case is struck when we say that the art of research is unknown to this author. He is without that ability to survey the wide range of

literature, and to select whatever was of value for his purpose, which so notably characterized Petzholdt. He is destitute of that virile energy which once given a clue to where material may be found will not rest until the new quarter is thoroughly explored. He has not even exercised the prudence of fully examining other bibliographical works and periodicals, nor has he presented the fruits of his own garnerings with clerical and typographical accuracy. And yet he has challenged comparison with the "*Bibliotheca bibliographica*" by naming his work "*Bibliotheca bibliographica nova*."

In the absence of a table of contents a perusal of the book shows that it contains a bibliography of bibliographies (p. 1-554) arranged systematically, following a classification devised by the author himself. Then follow three appendices: I. An alphabetical list of places where printing was done previous to the 19th century (p. 555-636), II. A classified list of indexes to periodicals (p. 637-710), III. A list of printed catalogs of the principal libraries of the world arranged alphabetically by names of places (p. 711-768).

In addition to these and a subject index there is a "supplement" (p. 769-802) "contient les ouvrages parus pendant l'impression du volume," from which we deduce the remarkable fact that the printing occupied the years from 1850 to 1898. Such a supplement is much more of an imperfection than an addition to the work; it completes nothing and serves merely to accentuate the hurried manner in which the book has been put together.

So far as the material part of the volume goes, it produces at first sight pleasurable anticipations, for it is well printed with large type on good paper, but here, unfortunately, the good points end. It is a necessity, for example, and one understood even by the layman, that the titles in a bibliographical list should be arranged so as to follow each other either chronologically according to date of publication or alphabetically according to the surname of the author. Here not only have the subdivisions of M. Stein's classification been allowed to choose their own sequence, but even the titles of works under these divisions have been thrown together without any discernible method. "Heaven's first law" is evidently unknown to-day in France. It is, moreover, necessary to point out that the proof-reading has been done in a remarkably careless manner.

With regard to M. Stein's classification, which he considers superior to that of Brunet or Petzholdt, Heidelberg or Halle, it would be very easy to find much fault, but, after all, no system is perfect. It was, however, one thinks, ungenerous of the author neither to give a bibliography of the efforts of his predecessors nor even to provide a place for their works in his scheme. M. Stein has erred also in attempting to scatter the literature of the science of bibliography throughout the book. Thus, "Printing" is to be found partly under "*Sciences économiques*," partly under "*Sciences auxiliaires de l'histoire*," partly under "*Archéologie*"; and "Prohibited books"

appear partly under "*Sciences religieuses*," partly under "*Philologie*." Library economy, it may be added, is wholly unrepresented. On the whole, this new classification is no improvement on many which have been used before, and M. Stein would have done well to adhere to some system which had previously been proven. It would also have added to the facility of use if the sections and subdivisions had been numbered.

It may be well to state here that M. Stein has performed a service by making a list of bibliographies supplementary to the work of Petzholdt. But it must also be said that this product of his efforts is grossly inadequate in volume and workmanship, that its conspicuous faults are inaccuracy and incompleteness, and that these sources of weakness, added to those of clerical and typographical inaccuracy, render the book a notable failure.

To take a few examples (for it would be wholly useless and impossible to give all the instances even of one general section), it will be noticed on page 19, under "*Bibliographies nationales*," that Kelly's American catalogue is dated "New York, 1866-92, 6 vols. in 8," whereas its two volumes appeared in 1866 and 1871 respectively. On page 20 Leypoldt's "American catalogue" is cited, but with the omission of the first two volumes. On the same page the "Annual American catalogue" is incorrectly stated to have been begun in 1890 instead of 1886. Under the head of *Grande-Bretagne* the author heaps strictures on Low's "English catalogue," but fails to mention the four volumes of subject indexes which belong to the set, and omits altogether the older "London catalogue" (1810-1831 and 1816-1851), which should have been included. Whitaker's "Reference catalogue," as M. Stein could easily have found out, did not begin its career in 1894, for editions were published in 1875, 1877, 1880, 1885, 1889. And just as easily could he have discovered the existence of the "Publishers' trade list annual," which has been issued every year since 1874.

Under India, his list of the official "Catalogues of books registered" is short five entries out of 13, and of the similar catalogs which are published in a dozen British colonies and dependencies such as Canada, Cape Colony, Cyprus, Hongkong, he mentions but two—Ceylon and the Straits Settlements.

"*Bibliographies nationales*," such as those to which reference has just now been made, are the record of a nation's output of printed matter. The bibliography of its "literature" is a different question, and is grouped by Stein under "*Philologie et belles lettres*." Here both the omissions and commissions are wonderful. Under "*dialectes et patois*" of America are grouped Pilling's Indian bibliographies and other similar works. Under "*Histoires des littératures*" English (including American) literature is represented only by Wülker's "*Grundriss zur Geschichte der angelsächsischen Literatur*," Leipzig, 1885; Ten Brink's "*Geschichte der englischen Literatur*," Strassburg, 1877-93; and J. Brander Matthews' "Introduction to the

study of American literature," N. Y., 1896. Let it be understood that in the eyes of this trained bibliographer these are the only volumes where a student can look to find a list of the works of all English and American authors with references to biographical and critical matter written about them. The first of the three citations is not a bibliography, and is confined to Anglo-Saxon literature; the second is likewise devoid of bibliographical data, and does not reach the Shakespearean drama; the third is a slight work intended for elementary schools. It is unnecessary here to enumerate the works which should have been given, but material for at least two pages of M. Stein's book could be cited at once by any college freshman.

The literature of the novel ("Romans") in all languages is represented by the Boston Public Library Bulletin "New series, I.-IV., 1892-96, in -4", Percy Russell's "Guide to British and American novels," and two of Mr. Griswold's Descriptive lists—luck had it that those on "ancient life" and "international novels" were found, and the "British," "French," "Romantic," and "American life" lists omitted. While mentioning American bibliography, to see what becomes of an important item, it is only necessary to look up Sabin's great and voluminous work. It will be found under "Sciences géographiques," quoted as follows: "J. Sabin, *Bibliotheca Americana*, New York, 1867-1880, 12 vols. in-8," whereas its title is "A dictionary of books relating to America," the 19th volume of which was completed in 1891, and the first part of vol. 20 appeared in 1892.

It is interesting to notice that M. Stein gives two items under United States in his "Bibliographies" division. These are Allibone and Prof. Brinton's "Aboriginal American authors," which, as being neither biography nor bibliography, nor yet "American," are quite appropriate.

As one turns over these pages many queries present themselves. For example, in a book none too large for its subject why has valuable space been taken up in giving the tables of contents of Petit de Julleville's "Histoire de la langue et de la littérature française" (p. 269) and Lavissee and Rambaud's "Histoire générale du IV<sup>e</sup> siècle à nos jours" (p. 409)? In the former case almost a page, and in the latter four whole pages, are thus wasted, even though neither work is of the least importance from a bibliographical standpoint.

Nor is M. Stein more successful in dealing with the sciences. Well padded out, the section devoted to "Sciences pédagogiques" occupies only eight pages, and these include the literature of "Sport," two pages of such subjects as dancing, driving, swimming, skating, etc. Huth's bibliography of hippology is one of these. On the modern and very important subject of psychology two items are given under "Matières spéciales," a subdivision of Philosophy. These two are Grasse's "Bibliotheca psychologica," Leipzig, 1845, and Sully's "Human mind," Lond., 1892! Three pages suffice for Philosophy, æsthetics and ethics being repre-

sented by one title apiece—Knight's "Philosophy of the beautiful" and Ryland's "Ethics," respectively. Sixteen pages are devoted to "Sciences économiques," under which "cookery books," "the chase," "bookbinding," "typography," occupy an important place. And to show the author's misconception of the subject, Walton and Cotton's "Complete angler" finds a place here, just as Almack's "Bibliography of the Eikon Basilike" makes one of nine references under the history of Great Britain.

As page after page reveals the same evidences of carelessness and slipshod work the effect becomes disheartening, for there is no relief anywhere. In the first item consulted under individual biography, Shakespeare, such names as Furness, Halliwell Philipps, Bohn, Wyman, are conspicuously absent, and there is no reference to the catalogs of the Barton collection, the Lenox Library, or the British Museum. To attempt to cite other important omissions would be waste of space, one example is enough. But merely to show the author's inability to follow up a clue, Mr. J. P. Anderson's bibliographies appended to the volumes of the "Great writers series" might be instanced. Of nearly 40 of these lists, which are full and carefully prepared, M. Stein mentions 17; of the others, the names of Jane Austen, Congreve, Keats, Rossetti, and Smollett do not appear in this work at all. Nor is the boasted "Liste importante de catalogues anciens et modernes des principales bibliothèques du monde entier" any better, for in the case of the first two which we chanced to look up—Brooklyn, N. Y., and Oxford—the catalog of neither is mentioned. What system, one wonders, does the author suppose he has followed with regard to mentioning library catalogs in the text and in this appendix? Does he exclude them from the former as he has done the Cornell University catalog of Rhaeto-Romanic literature? Does he mention them in the former and exclude them from the latter, as he has done a catalog of the California State Library? Or does he include them in both, as he has done a catalog of the Leland Stanford Jr. University?

The references to periodical literature are treated in much the same way. As every one knows, there is scarcely a magazine to-day, especially those devoted to a science or profession, which does not contain lists of books published or received. Consequently every section and subsection should have had its due quota, if all such were not to be excluded. To give a single illustrative example, the LIBRARY JOURNAL is omitted, while M. Stein's own *Le bibliographe moderne* appears, although it began its existence in 1897, and the book is supposed to contain nothing later than 1896.

It would be erroneous to conclude from the illustrations given that M. Stein's weak point was English and American bibliography; on the contrary, it is more than up to his average; but out of the abundance these examples have been chosen, that all might appreciate the value of this latest product of French bibliographic genius. FREDERICK J. TEGGART.

## Library Economy and History.

### GENERAL.

*The Library Association Record*, the new official organ of the Library Association of the United Kingdom, makes its entrance with no. 1 of vol. 1 for January, 1899. The new publication follows typographically in the footsteps of *The Library*, although it is a slightly taller octavo; it is edited by Henry Guppy, librarian of Sion College, and the first number is creditable to the editor and to the L. A. U. K. In an introductory editorial the aims and policy of the management are fully outlined. It is stated that the *Record* is the result of the decision at the Southport meeting, that it was "imperative that the journal of the association should be the official organ and property of the Library Association," and that "the new policy has unfortunately involved a severance of official relations with *The Library*, which for 10 years has been carried on by Mr. J. Y. W. MacAlister with much ability and self-sacrifice." The chief aim of the *Record* will be "to furnish members of the Library Association with full and punctual information respecting the association's proceedings"; it is also hoped to make it a "medium of communication, not alone between members of the Library Association, but between librarians in all parts of the English-speaking world"; prominence will be given to critical record of library catalogs and reports, to bibliographical notes and queries, and to book sales, and all possible impetus will be given to library co-operation. The first number contains a retrospective paper by Frank Campbell on "Past and future meetings of the Library Association, our aims and objects"; a report on "Local library journals"; a full department of "Library notes and news," including items for Australia and the United States, "Record of bibliography and library literature," and a selected list of "Noteworthy books of the month."

THE INSTITUT INTERNATIONAL DE BIBLIOGRAPHIE issued before the close of 1898 a quadruple number (fasc. 1-4) of its bulletin, devoted chiefly to papers presented at the bibliographical conference of 1897. It contains in addition the "Manuel de la classification bibliographique decimale: exposé et règles," also published separately; a report of the international conference conducted at London by the Royal Society; and the usual notes and reviews.

MEDICAL LIBRARIES. A comprehensive study of "The medical libraries of the United States," by Dr. C. D. Spivak, of Denver, forms a useful supplement to the January number of *Medical Libraries*, being a reprint from the *Philadelphia Medical Journal* of Oct. 22, 1898. In addition to giving an historic and descriptive survey of the field, Dr. Spivak makes practical suggestion toward the improvement of the libraries through affiliation with local public libraries, a union medical catalog, etc. He includes also interesting tabulated statistics, giving the essential facts regarding the medical libraries of each

state, and a statistical summary, showing the various classes, degrees of size, etc. There are 120 such libraries recorded, of which 45 are conducted as special departments of general libraries.

### LOCAL.

*Bangor (Me.) P. L.* (16th rpt. — year ending Jan. 1, '99.) Added 2217; total 44,838. Issued, home use 44,297 (fict. and juv. 33,006); reading-room use 34,823; holiday use 643. Cards issued 980.

*Boston, Insurance L. A.* At the annual meeting of the association on Jan. 14 the growth of the library during its 10 years' existence was reviewed by the president, W. H. Smith. The library now contains over 2500 volumes, and is believed to be the largest collection of literature referring to fire and marine insurance to be found anywhere, nor can another insurance library be found "in which the books are so well arranged for immediate reference, or in which such help can be afforded in looking up a special subject." The association is now working to raise a building fund.

*Brooklyn (Mass.) P. L.* Advance notes of the librarian's report for the year just closed give the following statistics: Added 1395; total 27,605. Issued 118,823. New cards issued 2454; total no. cardholders 11,281, or nearly a third of the population.

A special effort has been made to make the branch libraries at Montello and Campello more attractive. The approximate number of readers at Campello was about 15,000, and at Montello about 7500. The librarian recommends that in the absence of a children's room shelves be placed in the delivery room, where the children may have access to several hundred suitable books. At the branch libraries there should be a small, well-chosen collection of the most used reference books.

*Brooklyn (N. Y.) P. L.* On Feb. 2 Mayor Van Wyck appointed the following directors of the library: James Murphy, former vice-president of the board of education; T. F. Woodlock, P. J. Prendergast, M.D., Joseph F. Keany, John Devoy, J. B. Zabriskie, M.D., Alfred C. Barnes, Edward Kaufman, Frank W. Coler, A. W. Catlin, Irving T. Bush, John Kepke, M.D., A. H. Eastmond. The appointments are for a three years' term each, and are made to fill the places of those directors who had resigned or whose terms had expired. Among the retiring members were four women, including Mrs. Craigie, the director, and some comment was occasioned by the mayor's failure to appoint any other women on the board.

A public library for Flatbush, established under the auspices of the Brooklyn Public Library, will be opened at 5 Caton avenue on Feb. 22. About 800 books have been collected, and the library committee, which is composed chiefly of the Flatbush members of the Brooklyn Public Library Association, on Feb. 4 appointed Miss Mary G. Winship and William H. Duncan, both of Flatbush, as librarian and assistant librarian, respectively.

*Cambridge (Mass.) P. L.* (41st rpt. — year ending Nov. 30, '98.) Added 3635; total 54,149. Issued 176,795 (fict. 69.5%), of which 8600 were issued through the schools. There are 20,244 cardholders. General appropriation \$19,000; expenses \$18,999.58. Appropriation for East Cambridge branch \$1080; expenses \$1078.80.

The growing need of more stack room has been in part met by the establishment of deposit collections and of the East Cambridge branch, but additional space is still urgently required. Several changes in interior arrangement are recommended. The East Cambridge branch has fully proved its usefulness, and the deposit stations have also been found useful. It is planned to prepare several lists of about 50 books each for the use of those visiting the stations, and to treat the deposits rather as travelling libraries, removing them at regular intervals from one station to another.

*Columbus (O.) P. School L.* (22d rpt. — year ending Aug. 31, '98.) Added 2542; total 33,449. Issued, home use 114,504 (fict. 27.66%, juv. fict. 36.71 %); ref. use and school ref. use 32,709. Cards in use 14,462. Receipts and expenses \$3982.75.

The work of the school reference libraries is reviewed, and the importance of strengthening these collections is urged. The use of these reference books during the 36 weeks of school session was 121,084. There were four branch school libraries in operation during the year in schools over two miles distant from the library building. The average number of books allowed to a branch was 100, and as a rule only one book a week was issued to a child.

Enlargement of the present library building is much needed, and a children's reading-room is a virtual necessity.

*Geneva, O. Spencer Memorial L. A.* (Rpt. — year ending Dec. 1, '98.) Added 419; total 2100; issued 8016. Receipts \$166.72; expenses \$164.24; book fund receipts \$261.93; expenses \$215.25.

*Greensburg, Pa.* The many local dissensions that have arisen over the choice of a site for the proposed library building to be given to Greensburg by Andrew Carnegie have resulted in the decision to ask Mr. Carnegie to change the purpose of his gift and to build an armory in honor of the 10th regiment, instead of a library building.

*Hampton (Va.) Normal and Agricultural Institute L.* (Rpt. in Annual rpts. for year ending June 30, '98, p. 46-47.) There were 3749 v. issued during the months October-June, as against 3616 for the same period in the preceding year. Much picture work has been done, and regular exhibitions have been held once a week. Most popular was an exhibition of naval pictures, which was visited by 250 persons during the week it was opened. Eight travelling libraries were sent out. An urgent plea is made for more room; "it is almost impossible to tell how much our work is hampered by our present crowded condition."

*Haverhill (Mass.) P. L.* At a trustees' meeting held Jan. 20, it was voted that the resigna-

tion of the librarian, Edward Capen, be requested for the reason that a younger and more active man was needed for the best interests of the library. Resolutions were passed embodying this decision, and expressing sincere appreciation of the "absolute fidelity and devotion" given by Mr. Capen during his 23 years of service. Mr. Capen has had charge of the Haverhill library since its establishment in 1875, and previous to that time was for 22 years connected with the Boston Public Library.

*Helena (Mont.) P. L.* The "children's corner" has proved one of the most popular and successful features of the library, and has had a perceptible influence in improving the choice of books. During the busy hours an attendant is detailed especially to help the children and to supply desired information, and lists of good books are brought to their attention through the local press, printed bulletins, etc. In the *Helena Independent* of Dec. 26, 1898, "Books for girls" were described and listed, and through such articles Mr. Patton succeeds in keeping the work and aims of the library effectively before the public.

*Iowa City (Ia.) P. L.* (Rpt. of first two years, ending Jan. 21, '98.) Added 1328; total 2351. Issued, home use 48,433; no record of ref. use is kept. Visitors to reading-room 125,167. Cards issued 2810.

This is a remarkable showing for two years' work. The fact that there are more borrowers than books is striking evidence of the place the library has taken in the community. The librarian reports that "the interest in the library continues to increase, and the demand for books greatly exceeds the supply. The question of a library building is already being discussed. We have gradually increased the supply of periodicals as the demand increased, and at present we have over 100 papers and magazines on file."

*Kansas, lib. legislation for.* A bill establishing a state library commission has been introduced into the legislature by Representative Mason. It provides that the commission shall be composed of the state librarian, the president of the federation of clubs, and three others to be appointed by the state library directors. The commission shall elect a secretary, who shall be paid a salary of \$1000 a year, and an appropriation of \$7500 is made to carry on the work.

*Los Angeles (Cal.) P. L.* The Los Angeles *Times* issued its usual special "Midwinter number" on Jan. 1, in which was given a short historical sketch of the library.

*Massillon, O. McClymonds L.* The library is described in an illustrated article in *The Roller Monthly*, of Canton, O., for January.

*Missouri, lib. legislation in.* On Feb. 3 a bill was introduced into the legislature by Representative Amick, providing that when 100 tax-paying citizens of any incorporated city petition for the levying of a tax for public library purposes an election shall be ordered. The

rate in cities of less than 100,000 inhabitants is not to exceed one mill on the dollar, and not more than two-fifths of a mill in cities of over 100,000. The county court of any county that contains an incorporated city can order an election for the same purpose on a petition signed by 100 taxpaying citizens.

*Nebraska, lib. commission for.* The legislative committee of the state library association has issued a circular asking support for the library commission bill to be introduced under its auspices in the state legislature. The bill provides for the establishment of a system of travelling libraries, controlled by a state commission, according to the Wisconsin plan.

*New Hampshire State L.* (2d biennial rpt. — June 1, '96 — May 31, '98.) Added 12,725; total 48,810. There has been a gratifying growth in all departments, and the work of the library has been systematized and improved. New shelving has been added, but additional room is still needed, and the librarian recommends the installation of mezz stories with iron stairways in each alcove. The making of a D. C. card catalog has steadily progressed, the work being carried on, after the resignation of A. R. Kimball, by Herbert W. Denio, a graduate of the New York State Library School. The collection of New Hampshire literature has been extended, files of state newspapers have been practically completed, and the system of loaning books from the miscellaneous department to libraries throughout the state has been successfully carried on.

"An earnest move should be made at once to gather together the material for an exhaustive bibliography of this state, and to print the same." It is suggested that "recommendation be made to the state legislature that the state library be given authority to enter upon this work, and that a small amount (\$500) be appropriated to defray necessary incidental expenses." The experimental establishment of 10 travelling libraries is also recommended.

Appended to the report is a valuable and comprehensive "Historical sketch of library legislation in New Hampshire," by Herbert W. Denio, p. 65-173. The descriptive summary is classed to cover private library associations, free public libraries, miscellaneous libraries, state libraries, and New Hampshire Library Association, and is followed by a record of library legislation in the state, giving the text of all laws from 1820 to 1897. It is of interest and importance, and gives the report distinct value as a handbook of New Hampshire library history.

*N. Y. P. L. — Astor, Lenox, and Tilden foundations.* During the calendar year ending Dec. 31, 1898, according to the January number of the library *Bulletin*, the total number of volumes cataloged and accessioned was 32,835, of which 20,506 were purchases and 12,329 gifts. The total number of pamphlets received was 33,196, of which 4196 were purchases and 29,000 gifts. On Dec. 31, 1898, there were on the shelves and available for use of the public 440,148 volumes and 111,055 pam-

phlets. The total number of readers in the year was 106,008, and the number of volumes consulted 357,827, not including those on the free reference shelves. For the six months ending Dec. 31, 1898, the total number of readers was 50,113, the daily average being 321 and the number of volumes used 177,783, as against 47,880 readers, a daily average of 314, and 158,749 volumes in the last six months of 1897.

One of the most notable gifts yet made to the library is the presentation of the remarkable private library of Paul L. and Worthington C. Ford, which was announced on Jan. 19. The Ford library numbers about 100,000 volumes, and includes one of the finest collections of Americana owned by a private collector, a remarkable collection of colonial documents and autograph letters, and a special collection of 12,000 volumes on economics and political history, gathered by Worthington C. Ford, and said to be second only to the collection of Professor Seligman, of Columbia University. In addition there is a general miscellaneous collection of much value. The main condition of the gift is that the books shall never be allowed to leave New York.

At a trustees' meeting on Feb. 8 it was resolved to establish a section of Russian literature, and \$1000 was appropriated for the immediate purchase of Russian books. A petition asking for the installation of a Russian section had previously been presented, signed by 58 persons.

*N. Y. Y. M. C. A. L.* Advance extracts from the librarian's report for 1898 give the following figures: Added 2424, of which 978 were gifts; total 49,645, of which 8642 are in the 23d street branch. "Work was commenced in June on a card catalog to displace the large volumes after the form of the British museum catalog. Individual biography was removed from classification and arranged in one alphabet by subject under the prefix 'B,' and all fiction in the English language has been taken from its class and arranged in one alphabet by author's name, using the Cutter-Sanborn table."

*Newark (N. J.) F. P. L.* The corner-stone of the new library building was laid with appropriate ceremonies on Jan. 26.

*N. Y. State L.* A bill has been prepared for introduction to the legislature, providing for the erection of a state library building to cost \$400,000. The library, as now quartered in the capitol, has spread far beyond its original confines and now occupies every foot of space that can be given to it. But with all the increase in space it is badly cramped, and there are 150,000 volumes packed away in cases for which there is no shelf-room.

*Norfolk (Ct.) P. L.* The following statistics show the work of the library for the year ending Dec. 31, 1898: Added 506; total 9100; issued home use 14,604; no. visitors 29,080. There are 56 periodicals on file.

*Oak Park, Ill. Scoville Institute.* There have been varied activities at the library within

the past few weeks. Early in December an exhibition of Christmas books for children was held, at which orders were taken and books bought for purchasers, when desired. In the same month an illustrated lecture on the Santiago campaign of 1898 was given for the benefit of the institute, and on Jan. 10 the Scribner collection of Revolutionary pictures was placed on exhibition for a week.

*Parkersburg (W. Va.) P. L.* The city council has appropriated \$200 to defray the expenses of keeping the library open until 10 p.m. every week-day.

*Peoria (Ill.) P. L.* A letter was recently received by the librarian from Count A. S. Teleki, of the Hungarian Parliament, asking for detailed information regarding the scope and work of the library, "some idea of the plan, the rules observed, the annual report, and the history of the public library." The writer adds that the reason for the request is that "although at a distance, I am working here to gain the same ends as you in the United States."

*Pittsburgh, Carnegie L. West End Branch.* The new West End branch library building was dedicated on the evening of Jan. 31.

*Portsmouth (R. I.) P. L.* The new library building was dedicated on December 29, with interesting exercises. Addresses were made by Rev. Emery H. Porter, of Newport, and Hon. T. B. Stockwell, state commissioner of public schools.

The building, which is opened entirely free from debt, is 40 x 20 in dimensions, with a projecting portico 20 x 10; it contains a large reading-room, connecting with the book room, an "art annex," and several cloak and store rooms.

*Princeton (N. J.) Univ. L.* In the *Alumni Princetonian* of Jan. 26 there appears a full review of the work of the library during 1898, by Mr. Richardson. The year has been notable in many ways. It has seen the development of the library in its new building and the completion of the difficult adjustment between the collections housed in the new building and in the Chancellor Green Library, while it has been marked also by numerous important gifts. There were added during the year 10,753 v., including pamphlets; the cash gifts and pledges amounted to \$35,000, and the cash value of books given is estimated at \$5000. The total number of books issued was 21,658, of which 3001 were for overnight use; the reading-room use has been greatly increased by evening opening. "One of the most important matters of this year has been the beginnings of the use of the seminar rooms in connection with the new library building; of these at least seven have been equipped or endowed more or less completely during the year."

For the coming year the problem which faces the library is that of reclassification, and the next will be that of the revision of the catalog. "With these accomplished, it is believed that the library, as a working machine, may be counted complete, however far from perfect."

*St. Louis (Mo.) Mercantile L.* The library has arranged for the delivery of books to members living in distant towns. An extra charge of \$2 is added to the usual membership fee of \$5, to cover express charges, and books are shipped by express until the amount of the shipping deposit is exhausted. Special arrangements are made to supply books to reading circles, clubs, etc.

*San Francisco, Cal.* On Jan. 17 a decision was made regarding the Sutro will by Judge Trout, declaring invalid the trust clause by which Sutro Heights was given as a public park to the city and San Miguel park was set aside to support a scientific school. This property will now go into the residuary estate and be divided among the children. The city thus loses the expected public park by the seashore and the use of the Sutro library contained therein.

*Spokane (Wash.) P. L.* The library has been opened on Sunday afternoons for reference and reading-room use.

*Washington (D. C.) P. L.* The selection of a site for the new building to be erected by Andrew Carnegie, as reported in the January number of *L. J.* (p. 38), has been a matter of some difficulty. Two sites have been suggested, and bills drafted authorizing their use, the first being at Pennsylvania avenue and 7th street, opposite the Central Market, the second being Mount Vernon Square; but neither of these have satisfied the Congressmen generally, and the matter is not yet settled.

*Washington, D. C. Smithsonian Institution L.* (Rpt., year ending June 30, '98.) Total accessions 40,715, "an increase of nearly 5000 over the previous year," and a greater number than at any time heretofore; the majority of the accessions have been placed with the Smithsonian deposit in the Library of Congress. The use of the Museum library has greatly increased, and additional book space for 18,000 v. has been provided. Much work has been done toward systematizing the volumes contained in the "Smithsonian deposit" at the Library of Congress, and it is recommended that a special department in that library be established for the care and development of this collection.

*Washington State L., Olympia.* Correction should be made of the error in the January number of *L. J.* (p. 35), by which the report of Herbert Bashford, state librarian of Washington, was entered under Oregon State Library. The latter library is presided over at Salem, Ore., by J. B. Putnam.

*Windham (N. H.) P. L.* The attractive new library building given to Windham by G. W. Armstrong, of Brookline, Mass., was dedicated on Jan. 4. The library stands on a small hill, in the centre of the little farming village of 1000 persons, adjacent to the old town-hall, opposite the village store, and just beyond the only church building in the town. The dedication was largely attended, the long distances between homes bringing all kinds of sleighs into requisition, and by the appointed hour there

was not a vacant seat in the hall, and the long horse-sheds stretching between the hall and meeting-house were full to overflowing. The address of the day was made by Hon. A. E. Pillsbury, of Boston, and other speeches were made by W. H. Anderson, of Lowell, Rev. Augustus Berry, of Pelham, and Mr. Armstrong, who presented the keys of the building to Rev. J. P. Harper, the village pastor, and one of the library trustees. The audience then adjourned to inspect the library, where they were informally received by Mr. and Mrs. Armstrong. The building, which is 55 x 35 in dimensions, is one and a half stories in height, and has a southern exposure. It is built of field stone, with a hip roof of red fireproof shingles. A portico, with a pitch roof, forms the entrance, and an outside chimney runs up from the western end. Entrance is through a vestibule 6 x 12, from which there opens on the right a reading-room 20 x 30, and on the left a delivery room 12 x 15, connected with a stack-room 24 x 30, having a book capacity of 10,000 v. The reading-room is handsomely equipped, and adorned with framed photographs; over the large fireplace is a bronze tablet bearing this inscription:

"NESMITH LIBRARY.

"This building is a gift to the town of Windham, N. H., from George Washington Armstrong, of Brookline, Mass., MDCCCXCVIII., in memory of his paternal ancestors, residents of Windham, and descendants of Gilknockie Armstrong, the famous border chieftain of Cannobie, Scotland, some of whose family emigrated to the north of Ireland in the 17th and to this country in the 18th century, and erected at the suggestion of Leonard Allison Morrison, of Windham.

"The Rev. James Pethwick Harper (pastor), John Edwin Cochran (town clerk), Augustus Leroy Barker, George Henry Clark, Joseph Wilson Dinsmoor (selectmen), Trustees of Nesmith Library.  
William Wear Dinsmoor, of Boston, Mass., Architect."

#### FOREIGN.

*Association of Austrian Librarians.* At a meeting of the Oesterreichischer Verein für Bibliothekswesen, held Nov. 26, 1898, it was decided to compile and publish an address-book of Austrian libraries. Resolutions were also passed directing the executive board of the association to encourage so far as possible library development throughout the empire; the need of general circulation of library literature was also emphasized.

*Belfast F. P. L.* (10th rpt., 1897-98.) Added, lending lib. 695; total 18,495; issued 192,762 (fict. 66 %). Added, ref. lib. 626; total 18,530; issued 65,444 to 29,878 readers. There were 1,173,562 visitors to the news-room. There are 8622 borrowers' tickets in use.

*Bradford (Eng.) P. F. Ls. and Art Museum.* (28th rpt. — year ending Aug. 12, '98.) Added 6832; withdrawn 1855; total 98,740. Total issue 621,650 (gen. lit. and fict. 498,511), an increase of 19,542 over the preceding year. These figures include the central library and the 10 branches, the branch at Bolton Woods having been opened on Oct. 12, 1897. 11,591 borrowers joined the lending libraries during the year (of whom 6436 were males), and the number of visitors to art gallery and reading-rooms

was 1,042,053, an increase of 120,918 over 1896-97. Of books for the blind, 97 were issued during the year, and 86 added. A table of issue of books from 1878 to 1898 shows an "increase for the year 1897-98 over any previous year."

*Italian Association of Librarians.* The Societa Bibliografica Italiana, whose second general conference was reported in L. J., December, 1898 (p. 667), is the result of the bibliographical conference held in Florence in September, 1896. Its aim is to foster bibliographical work and to work for the development of public libraries in Italy. It desires to encourage bibliographic publications, especially co-operative enterprises, and to study the organization of bibliographic activities, national and international, while its council is authorized to consider all questions which concern the progress of bibliography, the preservation and improvement of Italian libraries, and the interests of the profession. The society is composed of ordinary members and corresponding members; it is governed by a directive council, composed of a president (G. Fumagalli), two vice-presidents (MM. Biagi and Buonamici), 10 councillors and a chancellor. A general meeting is held once a year in different Italian cities; the headquarters are at Milan, and the council meetings are held at Brera.

*Paris, Bureau Bibliographique Français.* A French bibliographical bureau has been established in connection with the Institut International de Bibliographie of Brussels, with quarters in the Hotel des Sociétés Savantes (rue Serpente). Its special purpose will be to aid in the preparation of bibliographies to be issued by the various French societies, and to conform such publications to the rules adopted for the "bibliographie universelle" of the Brussels Institute.

#### Gifts and Bequests.

*Atlanta (Ga.) Y. M. L. A.* On Feb. 7, at a meeting of the officers of the library association, a letter from Andrew Carnegie was read, offering to give \$100,000 for a new library building, provided the city furnish a site and appropriate not less than \$5000 annually for maintenance. Mr. Carnegie's offer was accepted by the association, and will be promptly acted on by the city.

*Dexter, Me. Abbott Memorial L.* By the will of the late George A. Abbott the library receives \$6000, the income of which is to be used for maintaining and improving the library.

*Exeter, N. H.* Edward F. Rice, of the Boston Public Library, has offered to present to the Phillips-Exeter Academy a library of 6000 volumes of Napoleonic literature, providing a suitable fireproof building is erected to receive it.

*Hallowell, Me.* By the will of the late Mrs. Elizabeth Clark Lowell, the greater part of her estate, after some family legacies, is be-



queathed to the Hubbard Library. The property thus left is valued at about \$12,000.

**Hillsdale, Mich.** By the will of the late C. T. Mitchell the city is to receive Mr. Mitchell's residence for use as a library building and city offices, and the sum of \$1000 for its alteration and equipment.

**Kenosha, Wis.** On Jan. 13 Hon. Z. G. Simmons, of Kenosha, offered to build and present to the city a library building as a memorial to his son, Gilbert M. Simmons. He also offered to give 25,000 volumes to the library on its completion. The building is to be erected in the central part, and its entire cost will be not less than \$100,000. The only condition made was that the library be known as the Gilbert M. Simmons Library, that it be maintained by the city, and that it be kept open "not less than six hours every day in the year." The offer was at once accepted.

**Pennsylvania State College, Harrisburg.** On Jan. 28 Mr. Andrew Carnegie offered to give \$100,000 for the erection of a new library building for the college, on the condition that the state provide \$10,000 annually for the maintenance of the library and museum. An act providing for the increased maintenance will be promptly introduced in the legislature.

**Princeton Univ. L.** It was announced on Jan. 8 that George A. Armour, of the class of '77, had given \$10,000 to Princeton University to found a classical department in the University Library. For the next three years he will give \$270 annually for the further support of the department.

### Librarians.

**BARROWS, Rev. Samuel June,** was on Feb. 15 appointed by the President Librarian of Congress, succeeding the late John Russell Young. Mr. Barrows, who was formerly editor of *The Christian Register*, and is at present Representative of Congress from the 10th Massachusetts district, was born in New York City on May 26, 1845. At nine years of age he began to work as errand boy in the office of R. Hoe & Co., and remained nine years with that firm. He enlisted in the navy at 19, but on account of ill-health was not mustered in. He then became a reporter, first on the *Sun* and later on the *World*. In 1867 he became shorthand secretary to William H. Seward, then Secretary of State. He remained in the Department of State for four years, serving in the Consular Bureau and in the Bureau of Rolls. He then entered Harvard Divinity School, and was graduated with the degree of bachelor of divinity in 1875. While at Harvard Mr. Barrows was the Boston correspondent of the *New York Tribune*. As correspondent for this newspaper he accompanied the Yellowstone expedition in 1873 and the Black Hills expedition in 1874, and took part in the battles of Tongue River and Big Horn. At the close of his course at Harvard he spent one year at Leipzig University, where he studied

political economy under Roscher. Returning to this country, he was called as pastor of the First Parish, of Dorchester, Mass. He resigned that post in 1881, and was editor of *The Christian Register* for 16 years. In 1895 he was secretary of the American delegation to the International Prison Congress, and the following year was appointed by President Cleveland the representative of this country on the International Prison Commission. Mr. Barrows was elected to the 55th Congress as a Republican, but was defeated for re-election last fall.

**BROWN, Miss Edna A., B.L.S.,** N. Y. State Library School, class of '98, has been appointed assistant in the catalog department of the Carnegie Library at Pittsburgh.

**BUCHANAN, Henry C.,** of Trenton, was on Jan. 31 elected state librarian of New Jersey, succeeding Col. Morris R. Hamilton, who had held the office for 15 years. Mr. Buchanan is well known in New Jersey as a newspaper man, having been news editor of *The State Gazette* for 20 years, and a special correspondent of the *New York Sun* and the *Paterson Press* for more than half that time.

**BUONAMICI, Rev. Antonio,** vice-president of the Societa Bibliografica Italiana and professor of history and philosophy at the Episcopal Seminary of Pistoia, Italy, died at Pistoia on Dec. 31, 1898, aged 75 years. He was much interested in bibliographical work and in the development of Italian libraries, and in 1893 presented to the Biblioteca Nazionale Centrale of Florence his fine collection of portraits, collected during many years and numbering about 20,000.

**DODGE, Melvin G.,** librarian of Hamilton College, Clinton, N. Y., has compiled a biographical and documentary history of "The class of 1890" of that college, which appears in an attractive volume. It includes also the several class orations and a catalog of the "Library of political science," presented to the college library by the class.

**EGLE, Dr. William H.,** for nearly 12 years state librarian of Pennsylvania, was succeeded on Jan. 31 by Dr. Edward Reed, of Dickinson College. Dr. Egle, who was appointed to the office by Governor Beaver, March 3, 1887, had held his position for a longer term than any of his predecessors except one. This was William Musgrave, who was state librarian from 1819 to 1832, when his tenure was closed by his death. Dr. Egle is well known as a historian and genealogist, being author of "History of Pennsylvania," probably the most satisfactory history of the state, various Pennsylvania genealogies, and "Notes and queries," a series of historical and genealogical notes, the best thing of the kind published in Pennsylvania. He also edited the series of "Pennsylvania archives," published in some 20 volumes (not yet completed) by the state. As state librarian his work was greatly hampered by political interference, but he had brought the library up to as high a state of efficiency as was possible under the circumstances. As an example of the way

in which his work in this direction was handicapped, it is said that he was obliged to sacrifice his catalogers and other assistants at the end of each change of administration in order to hold his own position. His deposition is a matter of regret.

FRIEDENWALD, Dr. Herbert, curator of manuscripts in the Library of Congress, sailed on Jan. 11 for Porto Rico and Cuba, in the hope of picking up old and valuable Spanish manuscripts, maps, and books relating to the early history of these islands. It is a rich field, and a tempting one for the student and archaeologist, and it is probable that Dr. Friedenwald will find many manuscripts to enrich the growing collection in the Congressional Library. He will be absent until April or May. England and Germany have also sent representatives to these islands on similar missions.

GOODISON, Miss Alice D., who has done excellent work in the Mercantile Library of Philadelphia, has resigned to take a position in the catalog department of the library of the University of Pennsylvania.

HINSDALE, Miss Louise G., graduate of the Pratt Institute Library School, class of '98, has been appointed librarian of the Free Library at Flushing, N. Y.

JOHNSON, F. W., of New Ulm, Minn., has been appointed state librarian of Minnesota.

KROGH, Andrew, for many years sub-librarian of the Newcastle-upon-Tyne (Eng.) Public Library, and compiler of its excellent "Catalogue of the Stephenson Branch Library," has resigned that office to accept a position as library expert with a bookselling firm in Chicago.

LAUDERDALE, Miss Jennie, of Dyersburgh, Dyer county, Tenn., was on Jan. 28 elected state librarian of Tennessee, succeeding Miss Pauline Jones, whose two-year term expired in January, 1899.

MCCRORY, Miss Harlette L., formerly librarian of the State Normal School, Millersville, Pa., and a graduate of the Pratt Institute Library School, has returned from a year's absence for study abroad to take up library work at home.

MILLEDGE, Captain John, for six years state librarian of Georgia, died at his residence in Atlanta on Feb. 2. Captain Milledge was born at Augusta, Ga., April 7, 1837. At the opening of the Civil War he left his law practice and was appointed first lieutenant of the First Georgia Regiment, serving with distinction throughout the war. At the end of the war he resumed law practice, which was continued until his appointment as state librarian about nine years ago. In 1897 he was succeeded in that office by J. L. Brown, the present librarian, and for the past year he had been seriously failing in health.

PERKINS, Frederick Beecher, for many years prominent in literary life and one of the pioneer workers in the library field, died on Jan. 24 in a sanitarium at Morristown, N. J. Mr. Perkins was born in Hartford, Ct., in 1828, and was the son of Thomas C. Perkins; his mother, who survives him, is a sister of Henry Ward Beecher, and one of his sisters is Mrs. Edward Everett Hale. He entered Yale as a member of the class of '50, but left college in 1848 and began the study of law. In 1851 he was admitted to the bar at Hartford, and the following year entered the Connecticut Normal School, where he was graduated the same year. He filled various positions in Hartford, until 1854, in which year he went to New York and became connected with the *New York Tribune*, remaining until 1857. Then returning to Hartford, he became assistant editor of *Barnard's American Journal of Education*, and was also appointed librarian of the Connecticut Historical Society. Later he became secretary of the Boston Public Library, resigning in 1880 to become connected with Mr. Dewey in the Readers' and Writers' Economy Co. In the summer of the same year he was appointed librarian of the San Francisco Public Library, where he remained until August, 1887. Mr. Perkins was one of the earliest and most energetic workers in the cause of library organization. He was a contributor to the government report on libraries of 1877, and with Messrs. Cutter and Jackson was a member of the first co-operation committee of the A. L. A., where he did yeoman's service. He served for many years as editor of the A. L. A. catalog, and was an associate editor of the *LIBRARY JOURNAL* from 1877 to 1880. His contributions to library literature were many and varied; among the best known were his "Rational classification for shelving and cataloging books in a library," published while he was in San Francisco; a "Check-list of American local history"; and the fourth edition of "Best reading," prepared by him for G. P. Putnam's Sons; while for over a decade the *JOURNAL* contained frequent and valuable contributions from his pen. He was editorially connected with several periodicals in addition to those previously named, and during his service in the Boston Public Library he acted also as editor of the *Saturday Magazine* of that city. His writings included "Scrope; or, the lost library," "My three conversations with Miss Chester," "The devil puzzler and other stories," and "Charles Dickens, his life and work." Charles Dudley Warner, in a short sketch contributed to the *Hartford Courant*, says of him: "He had talents of a very high order—a touch of that which is called genius—and it is safe to say that if he had confined his effort to any one pursuit he would have attained great distinction. But beginning as a lawyer, he was then a teacher, a compiler, a librarian; with an erudition that made his services of great value, he spent a good part of his life in work that was unacknowledged, and gave himself little leisure for the creative work which was his business in life. Some of his short stories are the most brilliant that we have had, and one of them,

'The devil puzzler,' is considered a classic for cleverness. His knowledge of books, of literature generally, his extraordinary memory, his quickness of apprehension and lightning-like wit made him a marked man in any company. He was one of the most accomplished librarians in the country, as remarkable for his knowledge of books as for his administrative ability. He was an historical student and an antiquarian; with a keen insight and great diligence in pursuing any subject he took up, no one of his generation was a more accomplished literary craftsman. His few published stories and single novel, called 'Scrope,' were sufficient evidence of his genius as a writer, but he was beside that one of the keenest and most appreciative critics in the periodical press."

Mr. Perkins is survived by his wife and two children, a son, Thomas, and a daughter, Mrs. Charlotte Perkins Stetson, best known by her verses "In this our world" and her recent study of "Woman in economics."

REED, Dr. Edward, president of Dickinson College, Carlisle, Pa., has been appointed state Librarian of Pennsylvania by Governor Stone, succeeding Dr. W. H. Egle, who had held the office for 12 years. Dr. Reed was born in Maine in 1845, and was graduated from Wesleyan University in 1869. He has held various Methodist pastorates in Massachusetts, Connecticut, and Long Island, and was appointed president of Dickinson College in 1889. He has travelled extensively through the United States as lecturer and preacher, and has contributed articles on religious and social questions to numerous periodicals. He was a prominent speaker in support of Governor-elect Stone during the recent gubernatorial campaign in Pennsylvania. It was stated when his nomination was submitted that Dr. Reed intended to retain his relations with Dickinson College and also to perform the duties of state librarian, and the day after his appointment this statement was borne out in an address to the faculty and students of the college, in which Dr. Reed is said to have declared that he would not allow his work as state librarian to interfere with his duties as president of that institution.

ROBBINS, Miss Mary Esther, graduate of the New York State Library School, class of '92, is engaged in cataloging at the State Normal School, Emporia, Kan.

THOMPSON, Leonard, for 33 years a trustee of the Woburn (Mass.) Public Library, died at his home in Woburn on Jan. 21, 1899, aged 82 years. Mr. Thompson, who was born in Woburn Nov. 2, 1817, had always been prominently identified with the town, and served continuously as library trustee since 1865. In 1877-8 he was a member of the general court, and he had also served as town treasurer and as sinking fund commissioner. In 1892 Mr. Thompson presented the city with a fund for free lectures, and the following year, on his 50th wedding anniversary, added \$5000 to the sum, thus establishing a course known as the Burbeen free lecture course, which is given every

winter. He was a member of the New England Historical and Genealogical Society, the Society of Colonial Wars, and other historical associations, and had been a member of the American Library Association since 1894, having attended the Lake Placid, Cleveland, and Lake Chautauqua conferences of the A. L. A.

YOUNG, John Russell, Librarian of Congress, died at his home in Washington, D. C., on Jan. 17, 1899. His death, while coming as a shock to his many friends, was not entirely unexpected, as he had been seriously ill for several weeks previously, and had before that overtaxed his strength in his constant work at the library. Mr. Young's brief term as Librarian of Congress rounded out an active and varied career. Born in Downingtown, Pa., Nov. 20, 1841, he passed his boyhood in Philadelphia, where his education was begun in the public schools. Later he was sent to New Orleans, where he took a special course in the high school, returning at the age of 16 to Philadelphia, where he was apprenticed to the printing business. His newspaper career was begun in 1857, when he secured a position as copyholder in the office of the newly established Philadelphia Press. He soon became a reporter, and later associate editor, and in 1861 was sent by Col. John M. Forney, proprietor of the Press, to Washington and Virginia as war correspondent. In Washington he did editorial work for the Chronicle of that city, and in 1864 returned to Philadelphia to assume editorial charge of the Press. The following year he began the publication of The Morning Post, which failed. In 1866 he came to New York and started The Standard, which also met with failure. He then joined the staff of the New York Tribune, and was its managing editor until 1869. Having studied law for the prescribed term, he was admitted to the bar. In 1871 he went to Europe as correspondent for the New York Herald, writing letters about the Franco-Prussian War, and in 1874 he returned to New York and joined the editorial staff of the Herald. In 1877 Mr. Young was invited by General Grant to accompany him on his famous tour around the world. He wrote many articles describing the scenes and incidents of the tour, and afterward recast and published them in two volumes, under the title of "Around the world with General Grant." Returning to New York in 1879, he resumed his position on the editorial staff of the Herald, which he retained until 1882, when, by the appointment of President Arthur, he became Minister to China. After his return from China he was not attached to any journal except the Philadelphia Evening Star, in which he had a proprietary interest, but he was a frequent contributor to other publications. His appointment to the headship of the Congressional Library, as successor to Mr. Spofford, was made June 30, 1897, just prior to the removal of the library from its cramped quarters in the capitol to its magnificent new building. It was generally felt that Mr. Young's journalistic experience did not fit him to be a successful administrator of what is in

fact, if not in name, our national library, and his appointment was regarded as a perilous experiment. Mr. Young's excellent record in the office was due first of all to his fine executive ability and to the good judgment he exercised in choosing many of his heads of departments. He felt also a deep interest in the work and future of the library, and devoted himself persistently to its development, showing a sincere appreciation of the possibilities before it. Mr. Young had been married three times, and is survived by his widow and a seven-year-old son.

WETZELL, Miss Bertha Seidl, of the New York State Library School, special course 1890, has been appointed cataloger at the Library Company of Philadelphia.

### Cataloging and Classification.

The BOSTON BOOK Co.'s *Bulletin of Bibliography* for January contains a "Bibliography of college verse," compiled by Joseph Le Roy Harrison, the conclusion of Miss L. B. Krause's "Reading list on library buildings," and the first of a series of articles on "Magazine perplexities," reviewing the discrepancies in the American and English editions of *The Strand*, by F. W. Faxon. Miss Tucker's "List of books first published in periodicals" is continued.

BOSTON P. L. Annual list of new and important books added, selected from the monthly bulletin, 1897-1898. Boston, 1899. 8 + 164 p. O.

This is the second of this valuable series, and it follows its predecessor in scope and style. It represents the more notable accessions chosen from the monthly bulletins from November, 1897 to October, 1898, including about 5500 of the 7200 titles there listed. In its comprehensiveness and well-proportioned representation of almost every branch of literature it should be useful and interesting in other libraries. Out of the 5500 titles included less than 500 are fiction and less than 200 English fiction, in which latter division it is curious to note the absence of Mrs. Ward's "Helbeck of Bannisdale." Biography, history, and travel are among the largest divisions, but the proportion of classes has been well maintained. Under "Bibliography" the Bibliothèque Nationale is represented by a special list of Venetian books, but its great "Catalogue general" is missing. The criticism that again suggests itself is the desirability of a full author index and of a subject arrangement for biographies. Of course it is true, as stated in the introduction, that "a reasonably close attention to the synopsis of classification will generally enable readers to discover the whereabouts of desired titles," but Lilian Whiting's "World beautiful" is not readily sought for under Ethics, nor would Crackanthorpe's book of short sketches, "Last studies," be quickly found under Literature. For biography the arrangement by authors is unqualifiedly bad, as these more than

all other books are known chiefly by subject, and Zyromski's "Lamartine" or Wallas's "Life of Francis Place" are practically buried when entered only under Z and W. In details of execution, printing, etc., the list shows careful work. It may be noted, however, that the English translation of Sienkiewicz's "Hania" appears under German fiction.

The FITCHBURG (Mass.) P. L. *Bulletin* for January has a classed reference list on Child-study.

MANCHESTER (Eng.) P. F. Ls. Quarterly record, v. 2, no. 3. Manchester, 1898. p. 72-104. O.

NEW JERSEY, Dept. of Public Instruction. Catalogue of approved books for New Jersey public school libraries, 1898. Trenton, N. J., 1898. 50 p. O.

This list is based on material prepared by a special committee, appointed Nov. 9, 1897, to recommend a catalog of suitable school library books, revised and extended by C. J. Baxter, State Superintendent of Public Instruction. It is intended to make the catalog an annual publication, and while school libraries are not limited to the books here given, the list is meant to be useful as a guide to teachers and principals. The catalog is divided for different grades, ranging from the second primary to the high school. The arrangement gives title, author, publisher, and price in separate columns, but without either alphabetic or subject order, nor is there any grouping of different classes of books. The selection in the lower grades is perhaps more satisfactory than in the higher ones, and it is on the whole fairly good. "Oliver Optic" finds full representation in the primary lists, and Mrs. Steel's "On the face of the waters" may be questioned in the high-school list. Typographically the catalog is careless and unsatisfactory; errors in authors or titles bristle on every page. But the publication of the list is a hopeful sign of interest in co-operative school and library work, even if in scope and execution it leaves something to be desired.

The N. Y. F. P. L. *Bulletin* for January lists a selection of the "Early books, mostly relating to America" from the collection presented by Alexander Maitland, and a most interesting collection of "New York broadsides, 1762-1779," formerly part of the Bancker collection.

PEORIA (Ill.) P. L. Classified catalogue, not including fiction, juveniles, and German. Peoria, Ill., 1899. 4 + 224 p. O.

The classification is that devised by W. T. Harris for the St. Louis library, and is of the order known as "inverted Baconian." It was noted in L. J., 21 : 522. Surnames only of authors are given, and entries are abbreviated; dates and number of volumes are noted. Periodicals, annuals, and indexes are included, and there is a careful and sufficiently full subject index.

The PROVIDENCE (R. I.) P. L. *Bulletin*, although it begins the new year in reduced form,

retains features of permanent value. The discontinuance of Mr. Foster's admirable reference lists, and of the special catalogs, reviews, and comments, will be generally regretted, but the bulletin is still of direct helpfulness in book selection. The full descriptive and bibliographical annotations to the lists of accessions are retained, and they include frequent brief lists of references (*vide* p. 5, 13, 18, and 20 of the January number), while the useful quarterly index to other reference lists is continued.

The SALEM (Mass.) P. L. *Bulletin* devotes its January reading lists to William Black and Modern Rome.

The SAN FRANCISCO (Cal.) MECHANICS' INSTITUTE *Bulletin* contains a short reference list on Nicaragua.

Y. M. C. A. RAILROAD BRANCH L., *New York*. Catalogue of books. 1899. 186 p. O.

A dictionary finding list; the D. C. is used except for fiction and biography.

#### CHANGED TITLES.

"Bismarck at home" and "The real Bismarck," by Jules Hoche, are different translations of the same book. The former is translated by Thérèse Batbedat and bears the imprint of John Macqueen (London) and L. C. Page & Co. (Boston), 1899. The latter is translated by Mrs. Charles R. Rogers and is published by R. F. Fenno & Co. (New York, 1898). Many (if not all) the illustrations of these two books are the same. — S: H. R.

"Travels through Asia with the children," by Frank G. Carpenter, is the same as "Asia," by Frank G. Carpenter, issued in the series "Carpenter's geographical reader." The only changes are in the title-page and preface (but with no reference to previous publication) and the addition of a dozen full-page plates. Both books bear the imprint of the American Book Company. — GARDNER M. JONES.

### Bibliography.

The AMERICAN HISTORICAL ASSOCIATION at its annual meeting in New Haven, in December, 1898, appointed J. N. Larned, R. G. Thwaites, W. E. Foster, A. Howard Clark, and George Hies a bibliographical committee to advise the executive council regarding such bibliographical projects as may be submitted to the association, and also to co-operate with the American Library Association on matters of common interest to the two societies. At the same meeting it was voted that a part of the income of the association be devoted to printing historical mss. of importance, beginning probably with the letters of John C. Calhoun.

ARABIA. Chauvin, Victor. *Bibliographie des ouvrages Arabes ou relatifs aux Arabes, publiée dans l'Europe chrétienne de 1810 à 1885*. Pt. 3: Longmâne et les fabulistes,

Barlaam, Antar et les romans de chevalerie. Liège, Vaillant-Carmanne, 1898. 151 p. 8°.

Reviewed in *Centralblatt für Bibliotheksweisen*, Jan. - Feb., 1899, p. 70-71.

ART-BOOKS. Lewine, J. *Bibliography of eighteenth century art and illustrated books: being a guide to collectors of illustrated works in English and French of the period; with 35 plates, giving specimens of the work of the artists of the time*. London, Sampson Low, Marston & Co., Ltd., 1898. 16 + 615 p. il. 8°.

BAUR, G: Hermann Carl Ludwig. Wheeler, W: Morton. George Baur's life and writings. (*In The American Naturalist*, January, 1899. 33: 15-30.)

Following the sketch of Baur's life there is a list of his writings — 144 titles.

BERGERAC, Cyrano de. Pierre A. Brun's biographical study of "Savinien de Cyrano Bergerac," published in Paris in 1893, contains a bibliography of Cyrano, p. i. - vii.

CHATEAUBRIAND. Maurel, André. *Essai sur Chateaubriand; avec un appendice bibliographique et 4 portraits de Chateaubriand, par André Wilder, d'après les documents du temps*. Paris, Revue blanche, 1898. 298 p. 8°. 3.50 fr.

CHILD-STUDY. Taylor, A. R. R. *The study of the child: a brief treatise on the psychology of the child, with suggestions for teacher, students, and parents*. N. Y., Appleton, 1898. 43 + 215 p. 12°. (International education series.) \$1.50.

Contains a four-page selected bibliography.

COMITÉ DES TRAVAUX HISTORIQUES ET SCIENTIFIQUES. *Missions, bibliothèques, archives. Bibliographie de leurs publications au 31 Décembre, 1897*. Paris, Impr. nationale, 1898. 137 p. 8°. (Ministère de l'instruction publique et des beaux-arts.)

EDUCATION. Hazlitt, W. Carew. *Farther contributions toward a history of earlier education in Great Britain: introduction*. (*In The Antiquary*, January, 1899. 35: 6-II.)

This is the first of a series of articles on the subject. It contains a two-page bibliography, consisting of "such publications as have for their aim the promotion of knowledge and culture without coming within the strict category of school-books."

GEOGRAPHY. *Annales de la géographie, publiées sous la direction de MM. P. Vidal de Lablache, L. Gallois et Emm. de Margerie*. Bibliographie de l'année 1897; avec un index

alphabétique des auteurs analysés et cités. Paris, Armand Colin & Cie., 1898. 300 p. 8°. 5 fr.

MARYLAND. Bryan, Alfred Cookman. History of state banking in Maryland. (*In* Johns Hopkins University studies in historical and political science, series 17, nos. 1, 2, 3, Jan. - March, 1899.)

Contains a three-page bibliography.

PYRENEES MOUNTAINS. Spender, Harold. Through the high Pyrenees. With illustrations and supplementary sections by H. Llewellyn Smith. London, A. D. Innes & Co., Limited, 1898. 12 + 365 p. 8°.

Contains an alphabetical bibliography, p. 330-363; most of the titles given are French.

SHAKESPEARE. Laer, Hans. Die Darstellung Krankhafter Geisteszustände in Shakespeare's Dramen. Stuttgart, 1898.

"Litteratur," p. 189-200.

— Lee, Sidney. A life of William Shakespeare. N. Y., Macmillan, 1898. 16 + 476 p. D. \$1.75.

Chapter 19, "Bibliography," is devoted to a bibliographical review of the various editions of Shakespeare.

SLAVERY. Siebert, Wilbur H. The underground railroad from slavery to freedom. N. Y., Macmillan, 1898. 15 + 473 p. 8°.

Contains "a useful though not exhaustive bibliography."

### Anonymous and Pseudonyms.

CUSHING, in his "Initials and pseudonyms" (first series, 1885), says that "A cosmopolite," author of "The sportsman in Ireland," is the pseudonym of John Dix, afterwards Ross. The original edition of "The sportsman in Ireland" was published in two volumes (London, 1840). An abridged edition is published in "The sportsman's library," edited by Sir Herbert Maxwell (Edwin Arnold, 1897). In the introduction to the volume in question Maxwell says that Cushing is in error, and that "A cosmopolite" was Sergeant Allen, "as he believes, of the Irish bar." In the sketch of Dix in the Dictionary of National Biography no mention is made of "The sportsman in Ireland." We have been unable to find anything relating to Allen. — S. H. R.

Ruth Ashmore, pseud. of Mrs. Isabel Allerdice (Sloan) Mallon, according to obituary in N. Y. Sun, Dec. 28, 1898. — B. W.

Kassandra Vivaria, author of "Via Lucis" G. H. Richmond, 1898), is, according to Henry

Norman in the N. Y. Times of Feb. 5, Donna Magda Stuart Sindice, whose engagement to William Heinemann, the London publisher of her book, is announced.

"Letchimey, a tale of old Ceylon, by Sinnatamby" (Lond., Luzac, 1898), is by C. V. Bellamy. — B. W.

"The secret of Fougereuse," from the French by Louise Imogen Guiney, is written by Louis Morvan. — N. E. B.

The following are taken from the "Catalogue of title entries of books" issued from the office of the Register of Copyrights, Library of Congress:

Alexis, pseud. of J. McDowell Leavitt, "Alicia: a tale of the American navy," pub. by Bonnell, Silver & Co., N. Y. 17:9 (Dec. 7, '98). Lecky, Walter, pseud. of W. A. McDermott, "Impressions and opinions," pub. by Angel Guardian Press, Boston. 17:12 (Dec. 28, '98).

Norys, Myra Valentine, pseud. of Carrie Syron Valentine, "The flag that won," pub. by C. S. Valentine, Cranford, N. J. 17:9 (Dec. 7, '98).

Trepoff, Ivan, pseud. of G. Hatfield Dingley Gossip, "The Jew of Chamant; or, the modern Monte Cristo," pub. by Hausauer, Buffalo, N. Y. 17:9 (Dec. 7, '98).

"Side by side: a child study," pub. by Am. Bapt. Pub. Soc., Philadelphia, is by Mrs. Edgar Y. Mullins. 17:13 (Dec. 31, '98).

"Newly discovered properties of the cycloid; or, the curve of unknown force," pub. by Noya Kima Co., Seattle, Wash., is by Jerry Wraenlow. 17:9 (Dec. 7, '98).

"Just for greens; comp., like Precious nonsense and A chamber of horrors, by N. M.," is by Newton Mackintosh. 17:9 (Dec. 7, '98).

"Eighth regiment of Massachusetts at Chickamauga Park," pub. by Crowley & Lunt, Beverly, Mass., is by J. T. Crowley and Clarence H. Lunt. 17:10 (Dec. 14, '98).

"Belinda, and some others," pub. by Appleton, is by Ethel Maude. 17:10 (Dec. 14, '98).

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De Bury's *Philobiblon*. Munsell, 1861.

State Normal School Library, Oshkosh, Wis.

*Library Journal*, v. 22, no. 1.  
*Journal of School Geography*, v. 1, no. 1.  
*Art Education*, v. 2, no. 2.

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CHIEFLY DEVOTED TO

Library Economy and Bibliography

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HERBERT PUTNAM  
*Librarian of Congress*

# THE LIBRARY JOURNAL

VOL. 24.

MARCH, 1899.

No. 3

THE appointment of Mr. Barrows to be Librarian of Congress having failed of confirmation, and the courteous repetition of the offer having been declined in a dignified letter by Mr. Barrows, the President has now named for the post Mr. Herbert Putnam, and has thus put the right man in the right place. The President had, from the beginning, expressed his desire to appoint a first-rank librarian to the position, mentioning Mr. Putnam and Mr. Dewey, with regret that neither of them felt that he could accept the position. Mr. Barrows was his next choice, as on the whole the most fitting candidate from those outside the library profession, and had it not been for Mr. Barrows' over-zealous activity in conducting his own campaign the Senate would probably have confirmed the President's nomination of him. Two years ago the President had caused to be conveyed to Mr. Putnam his desire that he should accept the post then vacant, and the present appointment has therefore a double emphasis. It is gratifying that the way has been made clear for the President to carry out his original desire and to put at the head of the national library and of the library profession the man whom the consensus of the profession and of the public, as represented in the press, has recognized as the man best fitted by temperament, training, and experience for the place.

ELSEWHERE the president of the American Library Association states the part which he, as representing the Association, took in the matter, and the Association is to be congratulated on the energy and tact with which it has been represented by its president. Mr. Putnam makes a serious personal sacrifice in leaving an ideal library position in Boston for new problems and difficulties in Washington; he has never been a "candidate," and makes the change only in response to the call of professional duty. Nevertheless, in making what is for the moment a sacrifice, he accepts a position which the opportunity and the man together will make the headship of the library profes-

sion in this country — if not, indeed, the world over, for no national library has before it the great opportunity opening before the Library of Congress in its new home. The salary is less than that of his position as head of the Boston Public Library, but Congress has before this, as in the case of Captain Ames, shown its readiness to appreciate the right man in the right place, and it will doubtless make the national librarianship, in salary as well as in rank, the first of library positions in this country.

THE novel plan of cataloging proposed by Mr. Rudolph has its advantages and disadvantages. Mr. Rudolph naturally emphasizes the advantages, and it may be well to hear the other side. The cost stated of two cents a page means, of course, only the physical cost of the blue-print paper and of the mechanical process of making the blue-print; and this cost must be repeated with each copy, contrary to ordinary printing, where the added cost of additional copies is extremely small. The preliminary cost cannot be overlooked; doubtless the remarkable catalog which Mr. Rudolph describes, has cost a great part of his time and the time of assistants of good capability, which in turn must have cost money. Blue-print paper can be utilized only on one side of the page, but Mr. Rudolph obviates this difficulty by pasting two leaves together, with good effect. It is to be doubted whether users will take kindly to white lines on blue, exactly the opposite of the method to which the eye is trained, but any legible method of bringing a number of alphabets into one for the occasional reference use of such a catalog, is a gain. The achievement of Mr. Rudolph is, indeed, in every respect notable, and introduces a novelty which may have important results. It is curious to note that when the first statements were made at the San Francisco library meeting, about the Rudolph indexer, then unknown and still a secret, it was suggested that the inventor might be proposing to utilize a blue-print process — a suggestion which now proves to have had the spirit of prophecy.

THE development of library interests through the women's clubs of the country has been one of the most notable features of recent library progress. Beginning with small travelling collections sent to affiliated clubs of the state, these have gradually become nuclei for travelling library systems reaching many remote villages and scattered communities, and the interest thus awakened has in many cases resulted in obtaining library legislation and the establishment of state library commissions. Progress along these lines is to be noted in many of the north-western and southern states, where the library facilities are few. In Oregon the state federation of clubs is urging the establishment of a travelling library system under the control of a state commission; in Utah the women's clubs, which sent out their first boxes of books in October last, have secured free transportation for them from the railroads, and report active work; while in Ohio, at the federation meeting in November last, the clubs pledged themselves to establish local libraries in all communities of the state where libraries are not yet established.

TURNING to the southern states, in Georgia the library department of the state federation, through its travelling libraries, has reached small clubs and associations in remote sections, public schools in the rural districts, and convict camps; in Alabama the work has been well started; in Tennessee the libraries conducted by the federation have gone widely into the small towns, the mountain districts, and the country schools, and a bill establishing a state library commission for the development of the system has been introduced into the legislature. In Missouri travelling library work has been widely developed by the federation; and in Texas the clubs have issued a strong appeal, suggesting organization of library associations in every community, and pleading for constant agitation of the question of local libraries until public sentiment shall compel more favorable legislation. The new Indiana library law, noted elsewhere, is the result of co-operative work between the literary clubs of the state and the state library association, and at the recent meeting of the Illinois Library Association reports of the library activities of the clubs formed an important feature of the program. Indeed in aims and results the library work so widely undertaken by women's clubs has been helpful and successful to a remarkable degree.

## Communications.

### EXCLUSION OF BADLY MADE BOOKS.

SOME time ago we inserted in copies of Holmes, Southworth, and Wilson a slip reading as follows:

"NOTICE.—Owing to the inferior paper, poor type, and excessive price of this author's works no more copies will be added to the Library until a better edition is issued."

We are to-day sending back copies of Wilson, which are marked throughout by broken type, not to mention poor paper. It occurs to me, however, that the action of one library will have little effect on the publisher, but that if all the public libraries in the country would bind themselves not to purchase another copy of any book that is as poorly made as the books above mentioned it would compel publishers to get out a better edition. They are, of course, not books that we wish to stimulate the circulation of; and, perhaps, their general bad make-up may furnish a palpable reason for excluding them from the library altogether. We have not ventured to do so thus far, though we are cutting down the number of copies. United action among the libraries would, I think, have considerable effect on the publishers of this class of books. Can we not have concerted action that will secure a better edition at a lower price?

F. M. CRUNDEN.

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### THE ECLECTIC AND THE LIVING AGE.

A COMPARISON of the contents of the current number (March) of the *Eclectic Magazine and monthly edition of the Living Age* (monthly), with some recent numbers of the *Living Age* (Littell's, weekly), developed a condition of affairs interesting, at least to libraries with limited funds in their periodical accounts.

The number in question of the *Eclectic* contains 25 articles, every one of which had previously appeared in the *Living Age*. In the table of contents of the *Eclectic* the articles are numbered I. to XXV. Of these no. XXI. appeared in *Living Age* Dec. 31, 1898; no. XVI. appeared in *Living Age* Jan. 14, 1898; nos. II., IV., V., VI., VII., and XIV. appeared in *Living Age* Jan. 21, 1899; nos. I., III., VIII., IX., X., XIII., and XVIII. appeared in *Living Age* Jan. 28, 1899; nos. XI., XII., XV., and XVII. appeared in *Living Age* Feb. 4, 1899; nos. XIX., XX., XXII., XXIII., XXIV., and XXV. appeared in *Living Age* Feb. 11, 1899. The supplement of this number of *Eclectic*, consisting of "Readings of the month," "Books and authors," and "Books of the month," appeared in *Living Age* Feb. 4.

Stories and a few articles in *Living Age* do not (or have not as yet) reappeared in *Eclectic*.

The January and February numbers of *Eclectic* appear to be made up in the same manner. Absence of some numbers of *Living Age* (in the bindery) prevents a positive statement.

PURD B. WRIGHT.

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## THE APPOINTMENT OF A LIBRARIAN OF CONGRESS. •

BY WILLIAM COOLIDGE LANE, *Librarian of Harvard University; President American Library Association.*

THE members of the American Library Association and the readers of the LIBRARY JOURNAL are entitled to some account of what steps have been taken in behalf of the Association to secure the appointment of the best possible librarian for the Library of Congress.

Mr. John Russell Young died on Jan. 17, and the newspapers were soon full of rumors and suggestions in regard to his successor. After consultation with such members of the Association as I could reach, I wrote to President McKinley as follows, on Jan. 23 :

*"To the President :*

"SIR, — The appointment of a Librarian of Congress being now before you, I beg to be allowed, as President of the American Library Association, to present for your consideration certain points which in the judgment of librarians should have special weight in making the selection.

"Let me assure you in the first place how deeply (and, as it seems to me, how justly) interested in the future of the Library of Congress are the other libraries of the country, and how earnestly its development on the best lines is desired by those who have done most to bring about the recent wonderful extension of library activity.

"Librarians recognize that the Library of Congress is in fact the National Library of America, and that, as such, it should stand at the head of American libraries, as the best organized and the best equipped of all. They also see that under the right conditions it can be made a leading factor in the educational and intellectual life of the country, and will exercise an important influence on the progress of the library movement. The director of a library so large and with such varied activities must have more than mere intelligence, general education or literary culture. He must have to an unusual degree the capacity for administration on a large scale, involving the wise adjustment of many departments; he must have tact and firmness and breadth of view; and the position also calls for a familiarity with library affairs and successful experience in the actual management of a large library.

"There are not, in my opinion, many men who combine all these qualifications, but there are a few librarians who have won conspicuous success and a national reputation in the conduct of large libraries. May I most respectfully urge that you will not make the appointment to the Library of Congress without giving careful consideration to the possibility of obtaining a man who has already proved his ability in this work. The appointment of an untried man is at best a hazardous experiment, not to be resorted

to in the case of the foremost library in the country, unless it is found that a man cannot be got whose capacity to grapple with the difficult problems of library administration has already been demonstrated by previous experience.

"The position of Librarian of Congress and the opportunities it should offer ought to command the services of the best men in the country.

"I write this letter on my individual responsibility and after consultation with such librarians only as are personally accessible to me, but I shall take immediate steps to obtain an expression of opinion from the Council of the American Library Association and from other prominent librarians in order that you may be assured that I express the general sentiment of the profession on this subject."

In drawing up a memorial to the President, it was thought that the Library Association should limit itself to stating the reasons for appointing a professional librarian and to indicating, in case a capable librarian could not be had, the principal qualifications to be demanded in the appointee; it was not thought proper that, at that time at least, the Association should recommend any individual librarian, still less that it or any of its officers should recommend to the President any candidate from outside the profession. In accordance with this understanding I replied as follows to Mr. S. J. Barrows, who, in a letter dated the day after Mr. Young's death, stated that his name had already been presented to the President by Secretary Long, and asked for endorsement :

"MY DEAR MR. BARROWS :

"I have received your letter of yesterday and have given the subject very careful consideration, and regret that I cannot oblige you. It seems to me of the first importance, both for the sake of the Congressional Library and for the general interests of the country that the Librarian of Congress should be a man of the widest possible previous library experience, whose ability to manage the largest and most important library in the country should be assured by his previous success in administering one of the other large libraries.

"Such experienced and able librarians exist and the Congressional Library has a right to their services.

"You will believe me then, I am sure, when I say that it is no personal unfriendliness or want of consideration for yourself that prevents my acceding to your request."

I also wrote to Secretary Long on Jan. 21. On Jan. 30 the memorial which had been

promptly signed by every member of the Council of the A. L. A. with a general expression of approval was forwarded to the President, and was in due course courteously acknowledged by the President's secretary. It was as follows:

*"To the President of the United States:*

"We, the undersigned, members of the Council of the American Library Association, respectfully represent the importance of appointing as Librarian of Congress, a man whose ability to deal with the problems of a large library has already been demonstrated by successful library administration.

"We recognize as essential qualifications for this position, sound judgment, a knowledge of men and affairs, tact, firmness and energy, but above all, administrative ability; and we hold that the possession of these qualities as applied to the management of a library is best attested by actual experience in library work. We therefore believe that in any large library, and especially in the case of the foremost library in the country, now on the threshold of a period of new development, the appointment of an untried man is a hazardous experiment, not to be thought of if a competent expert can be secured."

In forwarding this memorial to the President, I took occasion to say that "if no thoroughly competent librarian can be found willing to take the position, we should prefer to see in charge of the Library of Congress a strong man of broad views and of wise purpose, with administrative ability proved by success in some other occupation, rather than a weak librarian lacking in the capacity to conduct so large a work in spite of long professional experience. In other words, we are not moved to make this representation out of any petty professional bias, but with the single desire that the Library of Congress may have the best possible administration, and may take the place that properly belongs to it at the head of American libraries.

"If I can serve you in this matter, I am altogether at your command; or, if you wish, I can refer you to others, whose judgment you would find of value."

It would have been gratifying if the efforts of the Library Association might have been stayed here, leaving it for the President, if convinced of the wisdom of our representations, to ask for further information or advice if he so desired. But the common custom is for any organization having interests in Washington to send on its representatives to press those interests in person. On Feb. 3, accordingly, at the request of several officers and

members of the Association, I went on to Washington, and through the courtesy of Senator Lodge was introduced to President McKinley. It was a satisfaction to find that the President already fully realized the importance of placing over the Library of Congress a trained librarian of proved administrative capacity. It also appeared that in the President's opinion the librarian might be in reality, as he is by law, entirely independent of political control in making appointments and removals, and that the salary, if inadequate to command the services of the best librarian in the country, could probably be raised. These facts gave new hope that a really strong appointment might be made, and the result of the interview was that, without any solicitation on my part, I was authorized by the President to offer the appointment to Mr. Putnam. The President's declaration that he intended that, as far as it depended on him, the library should be kept out of politics, and the strongly expressed opinion of the Speaker of the House that the library might be and ought to be administered independently of political obligations, impressed me very strongly that great benefit would result from the appointment at this time of a librarian of the first rank, a man of proved capacity for library organization and for dealing successfully with varied interests and men, a man of force and tact, and finally a man unhampered by any personal or political obligations, one who had not sought the office, but had been sought by the appointing power.

All of these favorable qualifications Mr. Putnam possessed to an unusual degree, and they were not to be found in any of the other candidates who were being pressed upon the President.

It was therefore with the highest hope for the future of the library that I returned to Boston and communicated the President's offer to Mr. Putnam, making as strong a plea as I could for the opportunity that it seemed to me was now at hand to give the Congressional Library the organization it required, and place it once for all at the head of American libraries. Mr. Putnam asked for two days in which to consider the subject, and after consultation with friends and associates, and at the urgent advice of all librarians who were aware of the circumstances, signified to the President his readiness to place his services at the President's disposal. But in the meantime certain compli-

cations intervened, and Mr. Putnam thought it best to withdraw his acceptance, unless the situation could be relieved of them. The final result of this decision was that on Feb. 14 the President's secretary telegraphed me: "The President received with deep regret Mr. Putnam's message that he did not feel at liberty to accept the tender to him of the office of Librarian of Congress. The President felt that his appointment would be most fitting, and was anxious that the library should have the benefit of his ripe experience. After Mr. Putnam declined, the President notified Mr. Barrows, who had been strongly recommended by literary men and librarians as well as by public men, that he would nominate him for the place."

On Feb. 15 the nomination was sent to the Senate, and was referred in due course to the Committee on the Library, but was not reported back by that committee until a day or two before the end of the session. The report was adverse to Mr. Barrows's confirmation, but, although the last half hour of the executive session of the Senate was devoted to a discussion of the case, no action was taken. From the somewhat contradictory accounts of the newspapers, two reasons for the objection of the Senate are clear. In the first place, it was evident that Mr. Barrows had gone too far in soliciting support, and had pressed his own candidacy beyond reasonable limits, while he had written of himself in the public press in such a way as to call forth general criticism. In the second place, the Senate also evidently felt that it should be possible to secure for the Library of Congress a well-trained and fully experienced librarian, and, that being the case, it was not willing to be satisfied with anything less than this.

Immediately after the adjournment of Congress the President courteously repeated his offer of the appointment to Mr. Barrows, but the offer was declined. The field was thus made clear for the appointment of a first-rank librarian. Mr. Barrows had withdrawn. The reasons which had induced Mr. Putnam conditionally to withdraw no longer existed. On March 7 I addressed the following letter to the President:

*"To the President:*

"SIR—There is no occasion I am sure at this time for me to write you at any length in regard to the appointment of a Librarian of

Congress, for I know that you are already persuaded of the importance of putting in charge of the library a man of the best previous experience and ablest administrative capacity that can be had. It is also unnecessary for me even to mention the name of the man who in my opinion is the best qualified of any in the country to take this responsible position, for it was a satisfaction when I was in Washington to learn that you had already in your own mind fixed upon the same man as the one to whom you desired to offer the appointment, while Secretary Porter's telegram of Feb. 12 assured me that you regretted that Mr. Putnam 'did not feel at liberty to accept the tender to him of the office,' and that you 'had felt that his appointment would be most fitting and were anxious that the library should have the benefit of his ripe experience.'

"I can only assure you once more of the great satisfaction it will be to the whole library profession, in behalf of whom I feel that I have a right to speak, if the way is now open for the appointment which you desired to make before, an appointment which will place the Library of Congress, the National Library, in the position of leadership to which it is entitled, and will give it an administration sound and liberal, free from political entanglement and commanding the hearty support and co operation of the library world.

"I take it for granted that you are already convinced that Mr. Putnam's appointment would be generally appreciated. But, if you desire any further assurance, I can easily call out from librarians and others interested in library affairs all over the country an expression of opinion that will leave no doubt on the subject.

"If I can serve you in any manner, I am altogether at your service."

On March 13 the President appointed Mr. Putnam librarian. This is a recess appointment, which must wait confirmation at the opening of the next Congress, but the Senate, in not acting on Mr. Barrows's nomination, has already indicated plainly enough that it desires and expects the nomination of a capable librarian. Mr. Putnam was the President's first choice, and there is every reason to believe that the Senate will approve the selection. The general desire of Mr. Putnam's colleagues in the profession that he should be appointed to and should accept the office, has been supplemented by the most cordial and gratifying emphasis by the public press throughout the country that the place should be worthily filled, and the President in making this nomination out of regard solely to the interest of the library, seems to have assured in advance the approval of the Senate, of the library profession, and of the general public.

## THE BLUE-PRINT PROCESS FOR PRINTING CATALOGS.

BY ALEXANDER J. RUDOLPH, *Assistant Librarian of The Newberry Library.*

A RATHER novel success has been achieved at The Newberry Library in printing a catalog of the accessions, accumulated in the British Museum since 1880 to date, in one general alphabet by the so-called *blue-print process*. This catalog contains nearly 900,000 entries. It will require over 20,000 sheets of blue-print paper, and form about 40 volumes, in size of the general catalog of the British Museum. A glance only at the result of this reproduction affords a remarkable instance of the value of this process for libraries in publishing a complete catalog of their books at short periods, say every six months, or even at shorter intervals. The special advantages of this process over ordinary printing are many, and its wonderful simplicity makes it possible for each library to do its own printing.

The cost of one printed page, royal octavo, including labor and printing, is about two cents a page—or, in other words, a catalog printed by this process, containing 1000 pages, royal octavo, costs about \$20, two copies \$40, three copies \$60, and so on.

This method of printing furnishes an exact duplicate of the original, written or printed; it avoids the making of a special copy, necessary in most cases for the printer; it requires no proof-reading and prevents any possible danger of errors creeping in, and needs no pages of errata. In addition, it permits the reproduction of any title-page, book-plate, map, or any other illustration, providing there are no printing or marks on the back, and the rapidity with which any number of copies can be produced during bright sunlight is astonishing.

In the reproduction of any written or printed character there is nothing lost of the sharpness of the printing by taking repeated copies, and there is nothing to thicken or blur the printing in any form or shape, as long as a perfect contact is secured between the sheet to be reproduced and the sensitized paper. Many libraries have made on their cards full entries, in which this process would do much in preventing erroneous shortenings of titles or words bunglingly abbreviated and understood only by the professional cataloger, because every word, correction, sign or mark, written

or printed on the original, even a scratched place, is reproduced on the duplicate. But its advantages are yet more extensive, for the permanency of its printing is even greater than that of the printer's ink. Direct sunlight will somewhat affect ordinary printing and give it a faint brownish shade; the printing done by this process continues to darken long after printing, until the decomposition of the chemicals used in the preparation of the sensitized paper has been completed. At this stage it will have reached a deep blue, which will remain permanent as long as the paper itself endures.

Lastly, this process results in a printed catalog, in book form, which is more serviceable for consultation than a card catalog, because it is easier for the eye to sweep down a large page than to read many cards placed in a wooden box, necessitating the turning over with the finger of each individual card. A printed catalog made by this process is even more than a curtailer of expenditures; it is a record of the progress and condition of the card catalog in a library superior to any other form of duplication that could be made. It may be expected, without exaggerating the importance of this process for library use, that there is full evidence furnished in its present stage to cause a rapid and wonderful transformation not only in libraries, but also in government, state, and municipal circles.

Before entering upon a detailed description of this process it will be proper to state that, after a long and continuous study of many reproducing processes already in practical use in commercial and industrial circles, the blue-print process was found the only one which promised the best results in meeting certain requirements peculiar to library work. The process is probably as old as photography, and has been used for many years in the reproduction of mechanical drawings, maps, and other illustrations. Of course there is a great difference between printing a large mechanical drawing and a printed page. Little imperfections are lost on large sheets of drawings, illustrations, etc., but such flaws could not be tolerated on a printed page where even a broken letter is noticed.

In order to use this process for regular library



work many improvements in different directions had to be made, and continuous experiments were necessary to reach the present degree of finish. A great deal more needs to be done until it will rise to the point of perfection. Several patents have been already applied for and more may follow, because the possibilities in optics and chemistry are great and seem to be altogether boundless. Many statements formerly considered mere fairy tales have become established facts to-day. The principles which make this process possible are as follows:

It is a method of photo-printing by which a sensitized paper is turned from a light yellow to a blue color after exposure to the light during a proper interval beneath the original copy to be reproduced. When ready the sensitized paper is washed, thereby bringing out a fine dark blue color in place of the original light yellow in those portions of the surface which have been affected by the light and have become insoluble, while the parts screened by the interposition of the printed or written matter will wash out and leave the clear white of the paper on a background of a rich blue, which soon becomes pleasant to the eye by reason of its softness.

The sensitized paper can be purchased ready for use, but owing to its great sensitiveness care must be taken in protecting it from the light, and also from moisture, while cutting it into sheets. It will remain good for long periods if kept in a dark and dry place, wrapped up in paraffine paper and kept in an air-tight metal tube.

It is advisable to do the cutting of the sensitized paper and conduct all details connected with the preparation of the framework, as will be explained further on, in a room darkened by drawing the shade, or by allowing the light to enter only through a yellow window-glass. The remainder of the process is purely mechanical, and if carried out as described insures success. A bright boy or girl can do the printing to perfection after a little practical experience.

In order to secure satisfactory work the original copy should be a sheet of paper or an ordinary catalog card, which must be of white color and translucent. The title may be written or printed, but must be made with a black and opaque ink. Cards of another color than white, even so-called photographic colors, will give either a poor result or none at all, because the light cannot penetrate and affect the sensitized

paper. Even so-called "white" colors differ in a slight degree, and a white having a faint blue tint is preferred to that having a yellow tint. The more opaque the ink the more it will exclude the light, and the more clearly and accurately defined will be the copies; if the ink is pale the copy will lack sharpness. No copies can be made of a print if any printing or writing is on the back, for the reason that the latter will also appear somewhat and blur the copies.

The simplicity of this process is easily demonstrated in taking a copy of a title-page. The sensitized paper is laid under the title-page and a heavy plate-glass of a nearly corresponding size is placed over both. Exposure outside of the window to the sunlight for a proper time, and immersion afterwards in water for 10 minutes, will produce the desired copy. If an illustration, say landscape, portrait, or other shaded picture is taken, the copy will form a negative. This negative is put through the same process as the original, and the result will be a copy of the original.

To produce perfect work the original should be transparent (like draftsmen's tracing paper), thus facilitating the effect of the sunlight on the sensitized paper in producing rapidly a beautiful blue background. To secure proper transparency it will be necessary to dissolve one or two volumes of castor-oil in one or two volumes of alcohol—the proper mixture depends much upon the thickness of the card or paper—and apply this compound by means of a sponge to the back of a card or paper intended to be duplicated. The alcohol evaporates while the castor-oil remains in the material thus treated and produces the required transparency. The original opacity of the card or paper by immersion in alcohol will be quickly restored. In case this is done the alcohol employed for this purpose serves, of course, later on for diluting the oil in preparing the transparency indispensable for good results in the printing.

Having thus demonstrated that this treatment will not harm the cards, it may be further stated that the inauguration of this process means the removing of the entire card catalog apparatus into some convenient store-room as soon as copies of the same have been made. One drawer will be sufficient to hold all accumulations of accessions until the time arrives to issue a new catalog and incorporate these additions.

The copy to be printed may consist of a number of slips or cards, limited only by the size of the plate-glass in the frame. These slips or cards are laid with the printed side on the plate-glass, arranged in the order in which it is intended that they shall appear in print. The sensitized paper comes next, covering the entire surface of the slips placed on the plate-glass. A felt about three-eighths of an inch thick is spread over the whole, and lastly there is placed over the felt a board in three sections hinged together, fitting exactly the inside of the frame. Detachable springs maintain a constant pressure on all the different layers, effecting a close contact of the copy and the sensitized paper. Rollers are attached to two opposite sides of the frame, fitting on a track on which the frame runs, through the window to face the sunlight. If a large frame is used it is well to swing it on pivots, with such an attachment as allows the setting of the frame at any angle desired.

The exposure will vary according to the intensity of the light, and it is different for the differently sensitized papers. It should be continued until a margin left intentionally for such observation has turned to a grayish-green tint.

In the printing of the British Museum catalog the so-called "electric blue seal" paper is used. In relation to the length of time for exposure, it will be understood that the effect of the blue sky varies greatly with the latitude of the place, the season of the year, and the time of the day. In general, the most excellent work can be done with a startling rapidity during the summer season from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Before starting to print in the morning it is a good plan to make one or more tests of the intensity of the light, which will probably hold good in most cases for the whole day. The experiment is made by exposing only a small piece of sensitized paper in the frame instead of beginning with large sheets, and, as has been said above, to continue the exposure until the margin turns to a grayish tint. The exact shading of this peculiar color cannot be adequately conveyed in writing, but will be learned after some practical experience. Observations of exposure in this library are as follows: Bright sunlight requires about one and one-half to two minutes; a dull light from 10 to

15 minutes. Experiments made with white library cards, not treated with oil and alcohol, took almost twice the time of exposure stated. After proper exposure remove the sensitized paper without touching the printed surface, and immerse it in a pan of water with the printed surface upward, throwing water over it by means of a small paddle and leave it floating for about 10 minutes. The pan should be about three times as large as the size of the printing sheets, seamless, about six inches deep, and have its place directly under the faucet for controlling the flow of water during the washing operation. A notch cut in the side of the pan placed under the faucet will allow a surplus of water to run off into the waste pipe and also prevent an overflow of water in the pan. The pan must be cleaned after finishing work every day to avoid an accumulation of the washed-off chemicals, which would seriously interfere with the next washing operation. If the washing should include a large number of sheets it will be necessary to empty the pan several times during the operation and clean it thoroughly. The washing of the sensitized paper need not be done at once after the finished exposure, but the sheets may be collected into a box having a tight cover until a sufficient number have accumulated.

After having completed the washing the sheets are clamped between patent clothespins and movably attached to a series of parallel wires stretching across the room, about six inches apart. Two pins will hold one sheet until dry. If after the washing of a sheet the background appears of a very light blue, or entirely washed away, the fact indicates that the exposure has been too short; if, on the contrary, the reproduced printing—not the background—has a bluish tint, or appears blue, it shows the effect of over-exposure.

The contracting of wrinkles on the printed sheets, developed through the washing process, will be obviated by pasting two succeeding pages together and keeping them under pressure for a day or two.

The details of the preparation for printing the British Museum accessions by this process may be of some interest to the profession. As mentioned before, these accessions accumulated since 1880 to date consist of 446 parts or sections. They are printed on one side only, in double columns, with the exception of a few

early parts, and each one covers an independent alphabet, thus requiring the handling and examining of over 400 unconnected alphabets to complete a research.

Considering the fact that there is no other catalog of books of a similar compass, forming such an invaluable record of the progress of the literature of the world, and offering like facilities to the critical student who needs a wide range of sources in his investigations, it became the imperative duty of The Newberry Library to assist the many and daily increasing bibliographical students by arranging this bulky material for ready reference.

The next question to be considered was whether a large number of entries in the accessions, duplicated in the regular edition of the British Museum catalog, should be discarded from the present issue in this library. A preliminary examination of these entries furnished a few instances of certain discrepancies between the entries of the accessions and those repeated in the regular edition. Such errors are, of course, incidental to a colossal work of such extraordinary character. A closer inspection soon established the fact that the discarding and verification of these entries would take considerable time, increase the expense, and delay the issue of the much-needed catalog for considerable time. After careful consideration of the fabulously low price of printing and the great rapidity of presswork, the fact that one cent expenditure in this issue goes farther than two dollars spent in the work by our English friends, that in addition our process would secure to our copy absolute accuracy as well as neatness, dispense with all proof-reading, and free us from the shortcomings connected with the British Museum method of pasting in heavy volumes, it has been thought best to issue the complete accessions as they stand.

The next step was to convert this multitude of slips into manageable sections. First the margin of each sheet was trimmed close to the printed matter and the sheet then separated into its two columns. Each section forming an alphabet was kept by itself with the single columns in consecutive order. The next operation consisted in forming one general alphabet of all the columns embodied in these 446 sections. The result was that each letter was formed of

many single columns and such parts of columns as had to be cut off in order to bring together all slips of each letter of the alphabet. Each individual letter was tied up and labelled. Letter "D" formed about a medium dose of this monster concentration for a starter. A specially constructed cutting-machine served splendidly in separating the single slips of each column. The alphabetical arrangement of the letter "D" was soon after completed. It took a little time to get used to the handling of such flimsy material, extremely irregular in size; but the work being found rather novel and interesting, expertness in alphabeting very soon increased the rapidity of it beyond expectations.

The enthusiasm of a talented staff of assistants, second to none in this country, contributed much to promote efficiency in meeting gallantly many singular complications such as must arise in a polyglot compilation of this magnitude.

The alphabetical slips are sent in small packages to the printing department. In order not to injure any of the slips a heavy cardboard, corresponding in width but of a length equal to the largest sized slip in each package, is placed at the end of it, and a rubber band holds all together. Each pack contains 100 slips and has a consecutive number. After printing, the slips of four pages are placed in their order in a manila envelope and labelled with the page numbers of the printed sheets, placed in a box and stored away for future use.

No library of a character similar to The Newberry is complete without this catalog, and there is a probability that the trustees of this library would consider the printing of a limited number of copies, provided a number of applications for it should be made. The price would much depend upon the number of copies subscribed for.

Having thus attempted to give a clear outline of this process and its application, it may be justly said that we take pride in what has been already accomplished. The results so far gained surpass all expectations, and still the writer of this article has very strong reasons to hope that it may be practicable to supplement this early statement with another report of further achievements in this direction in the near future, as soon as this catalog has passed through its bath of blue.

### A FRENCH VIEW OF AMERICAN LIBRARIES.

AMONG the most interesting contributions to the library literature of 1898 was a review of "Les bibliothèques publiques aux États-Unis d'Amérique," contributed by Dr. Albert Schinz, now of the library of the University of Minnesota, to the *Bibliothèque Universelle et Revue Suisse*, of Lausanne. The subject was treated in two articles, appearing respectively in the August and September numbers of the *Bibliothèque*, and the various comments and criticisms it embodied give it a special interest to American librarians and justify a summary of its main points.

The number and wealth of American libraries, and their development through state support, awakens astonishment in the mind of this interested observer. There prevails in this country, he says, "an actual library fever." "Not only must each educational institution, each learned or artistic association have its own library, and have it as rich as possible, but there is hardly a political or religious society, a church, club, masonic lodge, museum, hospital, or railway company that has not its library," while the private library finds a place in the majority of homes. The great growth of smaller public libraries is noted, while to towns unprovided with such institutions the travelling library system brings its book supply.

The multiplication of costly library buildings gives rise to the natural question, Where is the money thus spent obtained? and this leads to a consideration of the growth of permissive if not compulsory library legislation. "However, the fact that the state shows itself disposed to furnish its share of the cost of public libraries does not prevent others from contributing in ample measure. Musical and literary *soirées* are given, the profits of which go to buy new books; village clubs give at the end of each year their collections of magazines; while many public libraries have their origin in the gift of a private library. In general," adds M. Maire, "Americans are quick to make use of that psychological law that inclines us to prefer those whom we have helped to those who have helped us. Each year the libraries publish a list of the gifts, even the most insignificant, that have been made to them, and very few men are insensible to that honor. Thus each donor feels that he has contributed to the prosperity of the library; it is in part, at least, his work; his dignity is concerned, and his generosity increases in proportion as his vanity is flattered."

Turning from the causes that have developed libraries to the libraries themselves, M. Maire considers the construction and arrangement of library buildings. "Many are remarkable for their imposing grandeur and their artistic luxury. The latter, indeed, in some cases is unbounded." The Library of Congress and the Boston Public Library are cited as examples of the immense size, lavish decoration, and costly equipment seen in varying degree in the libraries of many cities; but the tendency

toward elaborate ornamentation is deprecated as a misconception of the true aim of a library. "Of the great American libraries that we have visited," adds M. Maire, "the one which seemed best to combine art and utility is that of the state of New York, at Albany." In reviewing interior arrangements the stack system is described, with the mechanical book-carrying apparatus as developed in Boston and Washington, and is contrasted with the plan developed by Poole for the Newberry Library, the latter being regarded as preferable in libraries devoted to reference use. The Worcester plan of "cutting the library in two" by creating distinct reference and circulating departments is also noted, but the arbitrary lines of decision this involves are not approved. "There exists," the writer continues, "a simple and practical means of combining the advantages of the two systems, without their inconveniences, but it is applicable only to libraries of modest proportions. It is that adopted by Mr. Fletcher in the little gem of a library (60,000 v.) that he has organized at Amherst. All the collection is to be found at the side of the large reading-room, where are gathered the encyclopædias, reviews, and journals; it is accessible to all visitors. On each story the stacks 1, 3, 5, 7, 9, to the right of the central passage, and 2, 4, 6, 8, 10, to the left, are shortened under the large windows that extend through the full height of the building; the space thus made is occupied by tables, at which the student may install himself."

Classification is considered at length. The D. C. is explained, and its advantages and difficulties fairly set forth. M. Maire says: "Today it is already a little late to think of corrections, considering the number of institutions that have adopted this classification, but a conference of scholars in each of the nine great classes—or at least a more serious examination than has been yet held—to establish an agreement upon the principal subdivisions would have been a relatively simple means of escaping many of the errors we have noticed."

In the preparation of catalogs it is thought that the tendency has been directly towards simplification. "Printed catalogs are more and more abandoned in America. There was a time when all self-respecting libraries were morally obliged to publish a large volume of titles. If that of Boston—and perhaps some others—still does so, it is only that the many smaller libraries that are in relation with it may know what books may be put at their disposal. This is one of the examples of which it seems to us European libraries might profit. What good is it, above all with slender resources at disposal, to spend so much money for a work the advantages of which are so slight in proportion with its disadvantages, instead of employing that money for the effective development of the library? What good is it to print catalogs that are out of date even before they reach the public?" The bulletining of current accessions is, however, considered an excellent plan, and the card catalog is approved.

The view taken of the relation of the library

to its users is a notable point of difference between European and American librarians. The former "judge all from the point of view of the book, while the latter think only of the reader. In the eyes of an American a library is of no value except in direct ratio to its utility to the ordinary readers. We do not think this conception absolutely just; but, the principle once accepted, it is applied with the utmost rigor. To go beyond the least desire of the public there is nothing they will not do." The various means of attracting readers and of rendering the use of the library agreeable and pleasant are noted, the children's room receives special comment, and the development of the free-access system and of Sunday opening is referred to. "Does the American public appreciate all these privileges? We can certainly reply in the affirmative," continues M. Schinz, and as striking evidence he cites the statistics of use of one of the two public libraries of Amherst, where 7500 volumes circulate to an extent of 31,000 v. in a population of about 4000.

Nor are the more special phases of library work neglected. Reference is made to the burning fiction question, to the co-operation of the library in university extension, school, and club work, and to the various aids to library progress given by the training schools, the general library manuals and publications, and the national association and local clubs of library workers.

Summarizing the result of his observations, M. Schinz says: "We would not say that American libraries are without faults, but the gravest of these are often an exaggeration of their excellences. Thus they emphasize, while we have too much neglected, the utilitarian point of view: the reader first, the book afterward. But often this principle, correct perhaps in itself, is badly understood. A library, whatever may be said, is a collection, orderly and selected, and not simply a heap of books; this collection should satisfy the bibliophile and the scholar at least as much as the ignorant reader. We know of librarians who have not subscribed to important reviews until the day that they were assured these would find a reader. But what would we say of a museum which should omit from its collection all objects for which the public showed no taste, or those which ordinary visitors did not appreciate!"

"Another characteristic, decidedly to be regretted, but not peculiar to librarians, is the exaggerated preference professed in the United States for works of American origin. In cases where such literature does not exist they do not hesitate to borrow from Europe; but if there exists on any subject a book by an American author they are inclined to adopt it exclusively, even if it is much inferior to the foreign works. But, again, this is not the one essential. In brief, the things that are to be followed much outweigh those which should be avoided. In all that relates to classing, cataloging, and disposing books—in a word, to library administration—the Americans are incontestably our superiors."

## THE INDIANA LIBRARY LAW.

ON Feb. 20 the Indiana legislature passed the library bill endorsed by the Indiana Library Association and the Indiana Union of Literary Clubs. The measure was promptly signed by the governor, and by virtue of its emergency clause went at once into effect. The new law was a substitute measure, in the nature of a compromise between the two bills, nos. 58 and 158, drafted one by the club union, the other by the state library association. Of the bills originally introduced, the club measure, no. 58, provided for the creation of a state library commission to have supreme authority over the state library and to be charged with its management, and the appointment of the librarian, in addition to exercising control over the system of travelling libraries, also provided for. It was also provided that on request of 25 voters the question of establishing a public library should be voted upon at any township election, and if a majority vote in favor of the plan was cast the library should be entitled to a tax levy of two cents on each \$100 of taxable property. The association measure, which was more carefully worked out, was more in accordance with the Wisconsin plan, charging the state library commission only with general advisory duties and the control and management of the system of travelling libraries. Library elections were authorized on the petition of five voters. It provided, however, that the libraries thus established in townships should be the property of and indirectly controlled by the local school board, and should receive a pro rata share of the unexpended county library fund. Both bills received full consideration by the legislature, and the substitute measure reported, while comprising a few of the features of the club bill, follows more closely the lines of the association bill, and preserves most of its essential features.

The new law creates a public library commission of three members, appointed by the governor for four years, the state librarian to be *ex-officio* secretary of the commission. The commission is charged with the control and management of the travelling library system provided for, and with advisory relations with the public libraries of the state. The work of the commission shall be reviewed in the biennial report of the state librarian. The sum of \$3000 is appropriated for the equipment of the travelling library system, and an annual appropriation of \$500 is made for clerical and travelling expenses. Library associations may be organized by five or more persons for the use of the travelling libraries upon payment of transportation charges, and all associations, guilds, granges, etc., are entitled to their use, if desired, on the same terms.

On petition of 50 voters the question of maintaining a library shall be submitted at any township election, and by a majority vote townships are authorized to levy a fifth of a mill tax for the establishment or maintenance of local libraries. This provision repeals the objectionable

feature of the old law, which required that a library worth \$1000 must be established by private munificence before a tax could be levied. Regarding the management of the library, it is provided that "there shall be established a township library board, composed of the school township trustee and two residents of the township, to be appointed by the judge of the circuit court (one of whom shall be a woman)," the term of service to be four years. The library "shall be the property of the school township, and the school township trustees shall be responsible for safe preservation of same. . . . Before the purchase of any books the township library board shall consult the public library commission."

The passage of the bill is welcomed by all interested in library progress in Indiana as making a great step forward in the library development of the state.

### STATISTICS OF STATE LIBRARIES.

THE information given in the accompanying table was obtained by the A. L. A. Committee on Public Documents in accordance with a resolution passed at the Chautauqua conference instructing the committee to make official inquiries concerning state publications and libraries. The queries were sent to every state and territory except Alaska, but Florida, North Carolina, and West Virginia failed to respond.

In size, the libraries will be seen to range from New Mexico's 6000 volumes up to New York's collection, which numbers 218,000 exclusive of the 43,500 volumes in her travelling libraries. Mississippi and South Dakota would seem to have no record indicating the number of volumes they possess, and Georgia has not included in her estimate the state documents she publishes. Either law-books or state documents predominate in all the states except New York and Pennsylvania; in Kansas, North Carolina, Utah, and Wisconsin, the law library is a separate institution, in Montana and Ohio it is a separate department; while Georgia and Idaho are obliged by lack of room to store away all books other than law, and Texas and Illinois, on the other hand, have not a law-book in their state libraries. 23 of the libraries claim to have practically all the documents of their own states; New Mexico and Texas seem to have the least complete collections, the latter state having been able only partially to replace the documents lost in 1881 by fire. The states are almost unanimous in their desire for freer interstate exchanges; Pennsylvania has perfected her system; Maine desires to exchange with all countries and has Canada and New Zealand already on her list; Virginia is required by statute to exchange with other states; and Alabama and Massachusetts both supplement their exchanges by purchasing. The state librarian of Texas deprecates that exchanges are made by the secretary of state and volumes so acquired retained by the secretary or sent to the supreme court; Minnesota appears to confine her attention to the law docu-

ments of other states; while Kansas is evidently exchanging under protest.

On the whole, the table is decidedly encouraging, especially as regards the state libraries beyond the Mississippi, which average fewer volumes than the libraries of longer-settled sections, but hold their own in desire for method and in progressive spirit.

The most satisfactory sources of general information on the subject of state publications are: the Bar Association catalog; the catalog of the Charlemagne Tower collection of colonial laws, published by the Pennsylvania Historical Society in 1890; the appendixes to the "American catalogue," 1884-90 and 1890-95; the 11-page bibliography of constitutional conventions, contained in the N. Y. State Library Bulletin of additions, no. 2; and the following bibliographies of individual states:

**ALABAMA.** Bibliography of the statute law of the southern states; by T. L. Cole: Alabama. Wash., Statute Law Book Co., 1897. 8°. From Publications of the Southern History Assoc., Jan., 1897.

**ARKANSAS.** Bibliography of the statute law of the southern states; by T. L. Cole: Arkansas. Wash., Statute Law Book Co., 1897. 8°. From Publications of the Southern History Assoc., April, 1897.

**CALIFORNIA.** Catalogue of state publications of California, 1850-July 1894. (*/s/* Report of the Trustees of the Cal. State Library. 1892-94, p. 31-62.)

**FLORIDA.** Bibliography of the statute law of the southern states; by T. L. Cole: Florida. Wash., Statute Law Book Co., 1897. From Publications of the Southern History Assoc., July, 1897.

**IOWA.** Historical bibliography of the statute law of Iowa; by T. L. Cole. (*/s/* Law bulletin of the State University of Iowa, no. 2, 1891, p. 38-48.)

**MAINE.** Bibliography of Maine to 1891; by Joseph Williamson. Portland, '96. 2 v. 8°.

— Executive, legislative, and judicial departments of Maine, [Publications]. (*/s/* 27th report of the State Librarian, 1895-96, p. 23-32.)

**MARYLAND.** Handlist of laws, journals, and documents of Maryland to 1800; by J. W. M. Lee. Balt., 1878. 4°. 15 p.

**NEW HAMPSHIRE.** Official publications, 1789-Oct. 1894. (*/s/* Annual report of the state librarian, 1889-90 [p. 87-137, 145-152]; 1891 [p. 73-138]; 1892 [p. 75-104, 119-125]; 1894 [p. 99-112].)

**NEW JERSEY.** A guide for the collection of the early laws of N. J., giving a table of sittings of the Colonial Assembly, 1702-1776, and of the State Legislature, 1776-1844. Trenton, W: S. Sharp, prtr., 1881. 16°. 8 p.

**NORTH CAROLINA.** Indexes to [list of] documents rel. to N. C. during the colonial exist-

ence of said state, now on file in offices of Board of Trade and State Paper offices in London; transmitted in 1827 by Mr. Gallatin; now pub. under direction of the public Treasurer. Raleigh, T. Loring, 1843. 8°. 120 p.

OHIO. Publications of the State of Ohio, 1803-1896, with index to the Executive Documents; comp. by R. P. Hayes. Norwalk, O., 1897. 8°. 71 p.

RHODE ISLAND. Check list of R. I. laws; by J. H. Bongartz. Providence, 1893. 8°. \$1.

TEXAS. Raines, C. W. Conventions and constitutions relating to Texas, and the collation of the laws of the Republic and State, all in chronological order. (*In his Bibliography of Texas*, app. no. 1, p. 227-237. Austin, Gammel Book Co., 1896. 8°.)

VERMONT. Bibliography of Vermont; prep. by M. D. Gilman, with additions by others. Burlington, Free Press Assoc., 1897. 4°. vii, 349 p.

WISCONSIN. [List of publications of the State of Wisconsin, 1853-97; comp. by S. I. Bradley.]

Part of Bibliography of Wis. in preparation for publication.

In addition state library catalogs and the reports of the state librarians of the several states furnish information of varying value.

There is at present in course of preparation at the office of *The Publishers' Weekly*, New York, a list of the publications of each state and territory of the Union, from the beginning to date, being a consolidation and extension of the various lists given in the appendixes to the "American catalogue."

TABLE SHOWING CONDITION OF STATE LIBRARIES.

State.	Librarian.	Total vols.	State docs.	Law-books.	Miscellaneous.	Docs. of own state.	Docs. of other states. <sup>1</sup>
Ala.	J. M. Riggs	30,000	Yes	Yes	Yes	All	Yes
Ari.	C. H. Akers	15,000	Yes	Yes	Yes	All	Yes
Ark.	A. C. Hull, <i>ex-off.</i>	60,000	Yes	Yes	Yes	Most	Yes
Cal.	F. L. Coombs	108,000	Yes	Yes	Yes	All	Yes
Col.	Miss H. E. Stevenson, <i>asst.</i>	12,000	Chiefly	?	?	Many	Yes
Cl.	C. J. Hoadly	12-15,000	Yes	Yes	?	Many	Yes
Del.	T. W. Jefferson	40,000	Yes	Yes	Yes	Most	Yes
Fla.							
Ga.	J. E. Brown	50,000	Yes	Yes	?	Yes	Yes
Ida.	Mary S. Wood	10,000	No	No	No	Most	Yes
Ill.	J. A. Rose	33,000	Yes	Yes	Yes	Most	Yes
Ind.	W. E. Henry	20,000	Yes	Yes	Yes	Most	Yes
Ia.	J. Brigham	61,500	Yes	Separate dept.	Yes	All	Yes
Kan.	Mrs. A. L. Diggs	62,000	?	Yes	?	All	Yes
Ky.	Miss P. H. Hardin	100,000	Yes	Yes	Yes	All	Yes
La.	A. F. Phillips	40,000	Yes	Yes	Yes	All	Yes
Me.	L. D. Carver	47,000	Yes	Yes	Yes	All	Yes
Md.	Mrs. A. B. Jeffers	50,000	Yes	Yes	?	Most	Yes
Mass.	C. B. Tillinghast	100,000	Yes	Yes	Yes	Most	Yes
Mich.	Mrs. M. C. Spencer	95,000	Yes	Yes	Yes	All	Yes
Minn.	C. A. Gilman, <i>St. Law Lib.</i>	38,000	Yes	Yes	?	Most	Yes
Miss.	Miss H. D. Bell	Fill 5 rooms.	Yes	Yes	?	All	Yes
Mo.	Mrs. J. Edwards	30,000	Yes	Chiefly	?	Most	Yes
Mont.	Laura E. Howey	8,000	Yes	Separate dept.	?	Most	Yes
Neb.	D. A. Campbell	38,600	Yes	Yes	Yes	All	Yes
Nev.	E. Howell	44,000	Yes	Chiefly	?	Most	Yes
N. H.	A. H. Chase	30,691	Yes	Yes	Yes	All	Yes
N. J.	*H. C. Buchanan	50,300	Incl. in misc.	26,200	24,200	All	Yes
N. M.	J. Segard	6,000	Yes	Chiefly	?	Few	Yes
N. Y.	M. Dewey	277,933	Yes	Yes	Chiefly	All	Yes
N. C.	[R. A. Cobb]	[60,000]	[30,000]	[Separate lib'y]	[30,000]	[Most]	[Yes]
N. Dak.	F. Falley	15,000	Yes	Yes	?	All	Yes
Ohio	C. B. Galbreath	57,168	Yes	Yes	Chiefly	All	Yes
Okla.	G. H. Dodson	7,000	Yes	Yes	Yes	All	Yes
Or.	J. B. Putnam	23,000	Yes	Chiefly	?	Most	Yes
Pa.	*E. Reed	135,000	Yes	?	Chiefly	All	Yes
R. I.	*J. H. Bongartz, <i>St. Law Lib.</i>	26,000	No	Yes	No	V'y few	No
S. C.	Miss N. Montgomery	60,000	Yes	Yes	Yes	Most	Yes
S. Dak.	P. Lawrence, <i>asst. sec. of st.</i>		Yes	Yes	Yes	All	Yes
Tenn.	*Miss Jennie Lauderdale		Yes	Yes	Yes	All	Yes
Tex.	E. Digges	35,000	Yes	No	Yes	Many	No
Utah	L. P. Palmer	10,000	No	Yes	No	None	No
Vt.	H. A. Huse	8,000	Yes	Yes	Yes	All	Yes
Va.	W. W. Scott	24,000	Yes	Yes	Yes	Most	Yes
Wash.	H. Bashford	25,000	Yes	Yes	Yes	All	Yes
W. Va.							
Wis.	J. S. Bradley, <i>St. Hist. Soc.</i>	105,000	Yes	Separate lib'y	Yes	All	Yes
Wyo.	J. Slaughter	20,000	Yes	Chiefly	?	All	Yes

<sup>1</sup> To the question, "Does State Library desire to exchange with other states?" every state but Kansas gave an affirmative answer.

\* Succeeded M. R. Hamilton, Jan., 1899.

\* Succeeded Dr. W. H. Egle, Jan., 1899.

<sup>2</sup> In Rhode Island the Secretary of State is *ex-officio* state librarian and the state library is incidental; it contains about 5,000 v., mostly state documents. The state has an important law library with separate organization.

\* Succeeded Miss Pauline Jones, Jan., 1899.

## PLAN FOR A HOSPITAL LIBRARY.

My attention having been called to the peculiar conditions of a hospital, the following arrangement for circulating the books intended for the patients has seemed to me worth considering. It is, in fact, the travelling library idea confined to a great building instead of to a state. The wards are lettered and numbered; those for women lettered, those for men numbered. I would make collections of 12 or 15 books each, selected from different classes: fiction, travel, history, science, etc. With each of these collections prepare a name list on cards with biographical and critical notes. These would add interest to the collections, besides being a source of information.

Number these collections I, II, III, etc.

Begin, January 1, with Collections I and II in wards 1 and A, there to remain one month.

Feb. 1, Collection I would move to ward 2, its place taken by Coll. III; Coll. II to ward B and its place taken by Coll. IV.

March 1, Coll. I to ward 3; Coll. III to ward 2; Coll. V to ward 1; Coll. II to ward C; Coll. IV to ward B, and Coll. VI to ward A.

When Collections I and II had passed through the two departments, their route could be reversed; Coll. I going to ward A and Coll. II to ward 1.

Special collections would be necessary for some wards, books being selected with reference to the condition of the patients. In the library there should be lists of the books in each collection. The cards in the catalog should indicate the collection in which the book is placed. There should also be a chart showing the location of the collections in the wards. A suggestive outline for such a chart would be as follows:

CHART SHOWING LOCATION OF COLLECTIONS IN WARDS.

Wards.	1	2	3	4	5	etc.
Ja.	I					Collections.
F.	III	I				
Mr.	V	III	I			
Apr.		V	III	I		

Wards.	A	B	C	D	E	
Ja.	II					Collections.
F.	IV	II				
Mr.	VI	IV	II			
Apr.		VI	IV	II		

Mary L. W. Loomis,  
Independence, Ia.

## A YEAR OF LIBRARY PROGRESS IN THE STATE OF NEW YORK.

W. R. Eastman at N. Y. Library Association, Poughkeepsie, Feb. 15, 1899, and N. Y. Library Club, New York, Feb. 16, 1899.

THERE are few new library enterprises that date from the past year, but some older libraries have assumed new work. The New York Free Circulating Library has a new branch in East 34th street. The Buffalo Library was, for the first time, free to the public, and issued 768,000 volumes. The Harlem Library in New York issued in its first year as a free library 117,000 books. The Brooklyn Public Library sent out 34,000 volumes in six months.

There are new buildings for the Bloomingdale branch of the New York Free Circulating Library, the University Settlement in New York, the Adirance Memorial Library in Poughkeepsie, the Catholic Institute in Buffalo, and several others are in course of construction.

373,000 volumes were added to the libraries of the state in the year, bringing the total up to 5,393,000, of which one-third are free for circulation.

There are now 828 books to each 1000 of the population, as compared with 591 to 1000 six years ago.

The statistics of reference books are very meagre. The New York Public Library used 338,000 in this way, as against 275,000 the previous year. The New York Free Circulating Library reports the "hall" use as 88,000 in 1898, 43,000 in 1897, and 22,000 in 1896. In the reading-room of Cooper Union there was a large falling off; 154,000 were used in 1898, 283,000 in 1896, and 319,000 in 1895.

The children's department is everywhere growing in favor, being prominent in the Fifth street branch of the Aguilar Library in New York, in Pratt Institute, Brooklyn, in the Buffalo Public Library, the Prendergast Library in Jamestown, the Syracuse Central Library, the Utica Public Library, the Poughkeepsie Adirance Library, and the Children's Neighborhood Library in Troy.

There are in the state 408 free libraries with 1,755,000 books and 6,440,000 circulation. The increase of circulation in five years has been 4,146,000, or 180 per cent. It is now 989 to each 1000 of the population. 100 books stood for 339 circulation a year ago; they now stand for 367 circulation.

In Manhattan the circulation has risen from 2,010,000 to 2,557,000 in the year. In the greater city it is 3,226,000, or one-half that of the entire state.

The increase of the year in the state has been 1,535,000. It is a question whether this rapid increase is an unqualified gain. There is great need of caution and honest effort to guide the reading of the young.

Classes for library training are more patronized than ever before. There have been 40 students at the Albany school and 23 at Pratt, and in many large libraries the assistants are systematically trained.

The travelling library system is making rapid progress. The state lent 540 libraries as com-



pared with 438 the year before. The New York Free Circulating Library circulated 39,000 volumes by libraries lent to teachers, missions, reading circles, etc. The Cathedral and the Aguilar libraries have also lent to schools. The Buffalo Public Library sent 40 travelling libraries to clubs, settlements, chapter houses, etc., and 163 class-room libraries to schools; it also sent thousands of pictures cut from magazines and mounted for school use in teaching geography and history.

The state library lends pictures, large and small, to schools and clubs. It has also books for the blind, which may be obtained for reading by any worthy applicant in the state.

### PUBLIC LIBRARIES AND PUBLIC SCHOOLS.

*Circular of N. E. A. Committee on Public Libraries and Public Schools, J. C. Dana, Chairman.*

THERE should be most cordial relations between the school and the library. The librarian should know the school and its work, in a general way, as a very important part of his work, just as the teacher should know the library and its methods as a part of her work.

The librarian should meet with the teachers as often as practicable for the discussion of their common work. If possible the librarian should occasionally address the older pupils.

Teachers should be members of various library committees, especially of the purchasing committee.

The librarian should make out frequent bulletins for school use. He should suggest books for the collateral reading of teachers and pupils in geography, history, science, and literature. He should regard the children as his most important patrons; those whom he can help the most. The children should have free access to the library shelves.

The community should be led to regard the library as a necessary part of a system of public education, no more to be done without than the common school.

If it is the duty of the state to see that its citizens know how to read, it is certainly none the less its duty to see that they are so trained that the ability to read will be a blessing rather than a curse.

A free public library is the adult's common school.

Pupils should know what a library is, what it contains, and how to use it. A child can no more be wisely left to get his knowledge and taste for literature by himself than to get his mathematical or scientific training in the same way. Children must be trained to use the library as they are trained to do other things.

Pupils should learn to read with economy of time by making use of page headings, tables of contents, reviews, "Poole's index," card catalogs, and other helps.

The destiny of a child is not affected by the ability to read, but by the use he makes of that ability.

The library should be made an indispensable

adjunct of the school. The school trains for a few years, the library for a lifetime.

Pupils should be trained to read topically, getting from many books the information they want on any special subject.

Normal schools, and all schools having to do with the training of teachers, should train their students in the use of books and libraries.

The ability to read is merely a means to an end.

### Library Association of the United Kingdom.

#### L. A. U. K. HANDBOOK.

THE *Library Association Record* for February announces the early publication of a new "Handbook" of the L. A. U. K., to be prepared on much the same lines as the "Year-book," of which the last issue appeared in 1895. The new manual will be welcomed not only at home but by members of the A. L. A., as the last "Year-book" is now sadly out of date.

### American Library Association.

*President:* William C. Lane, Harvard University Library, Cambridge, Mass.

*Secretary:* Henry J. Carr, Public Library, Scranton, Pa.

*Treasurer:* Gardner M. Jones, Public Library, Salem, Mass.

#### A. L. A. HANDBOOK.

THE new edition of the "A. L. A. handbook" has just appeared, and it will be heartily welcomed. In its revised form, the handbook is an improvement over the two preceding editions, having been shorn of superfluities and brought into excellent compact shape. It includes also the full membership list of the A. L. A., to December, 1898, compiled with careful accuracy, which makes it of special value. Copies may be obtained by addressing the secretary, H. J. Carr, Public Library, Scranton, Pa.

#### ATLANTA CONFERENCE, MAY 8-13, 1899.

##### TRAVEL ARRANGEMENTS.

ALTHOUGH all plans for the trip to Atlanta have not been perfected at this time, the secretary is now able to give certain information concerning the cost.

As stated in the February JOURNAL, the South-eastern, the Trunk Line, the New England and the Central Passenger associations have authorized a rate of a fare and one-third on the usual certificate plan, which means going and coming by the same route.

Members in the central and western states who intend to take the trip will kindly communicate with Mr. George B. Meleney, No. 215 Madison street, Chicago, Ill.

The following is an outline of the itinerary arranged by the travel committee of the eastern seaboard sections:

Leave Boston Friday evening, May 5, via Fall River Line, spend one day at Old Point Comfort, taking train on Sunday night for Atlanta, which city will be reached Monday

afternoon, May 8. On the return trip the party will leave Atlanta Saturday morning, May 13, and remain over Sunday at Lookout Mountain. From this point a drive to the battlefield of Chickamauga will be taken Saturday afternoon. Monday morning, May 15, the party will take train for Washington, where a stay of a day and three-quarters will be included. Reach Boston Friday morning, May 19.

The return from Atlanta will be by the way of Natural Bridge and Luray, allowing time to stop if it is deemed advisable.

The cost of such round trip will be exactly \$68 from Boston and \$58.70 from New York. This will include railroad fare, sleeper, meals en route, transportation, transfer, day at Old Point Comfort, two days at Lookout Mountain, drive to Chickamauga, one and three-quarter days at Washington, and all necessary expenses. To the above must be added the cost of living in Atlanta, which, at the Kimball House, the headquarters, will be \$2.50 per day. Those who wish to obtain board at a lower rate should communicate with Miss Anne Wallace, Young Men's Library, Atlanta.

The rate from Philadelphia will be the same as from New York, unless 10 or more join at that point. Washington members will probably go to Old Point Comfort and take the train there, although the committee is trying to arrange for a little nearer connection.

The round trip named is given on the understanding that the party will travel together. Those who wish to stop at Washington longer than the time named can do so at their own expense, for the extra time, upon payment of \$2 additional. Others desiring to go and come as quickly as possible will, of course, buy their tickets on the certificate plan, but it has been estimated approximately that the cost of the trip on that plan, without stops, will be nearly as much as the one specified for the regular party.

Plans for the itinerary outlined above are in the hands of the Norfolk & Western Railroad, which will provide a special train from Norfolk to Atlanta and Atlanta to Washington, provided 75 people join the party. A descriptive circular will be mailed to all members and interested friends about the 1st of April.

It being essential to know as early as possible how large a number may be expected, all interested are requested to communicate their intentions to F. W. Faxon, No. 15½ Beacon street, Boston, Mass.; or Frank P. Hill, Public Library, Newark, N. J., or to the undersigned.

HENRY J. CARR, *Secretary*.

#### A. L. A. PUBLISHING SECTION.

THE executive board of the A. L. A. Publishing Section met in the room of the American Academy at the Boston Athenæum, Saturday, Feb. 25, 1899.

The minutes of the last meeting were read and approved. Mr. Lane commented on the financial statement which had been sent to the members beforehand.

*A. L. A. index.* — Voted to print a new edition including the material of the old edition instead of a mere supplement, in accordance

with the expressed wish of the majority of those voting on the subject.

*Periodical cards.* — The secretary presented a list of titles to be dropped from the list of periodicals indexed and a list of others to be added at the desire of the five libraries conducting the work. Voted that the secretary provide a list on cards of the periodicals indexed, to be furnished free of charge to subscribers.

*A. L. A. proceedings.* — Voted that the A. L. A. proceedings be sold at \$1 a copy, from 1886 to date, except for the years 1886, 1892, 1893, at \$2.50, and 1890, 1891, 1896, at \$2.

*Supplement to A. L. A. Catalog.* — Voted to order 1000 copies of the supplement to the "A. L. A. catalog," which the New York Library has offered to print in its bulletin.

#### PRINTED CATALOG CARDS FOR ARTICLES IN BOOKS OF COMPOSITE AUTHORSHIP AND PERIODICALS.

The Publishing Section is now prepared to furnish from time to time printed catalog cards for the articles in books of composite authorship and in certain sets of periodicals and government reports. The cards will be in the same form as those issued for current periodical publications of either of the two standard sizes (7.5 x 12.5 cm. or 5 x 12 cm.) and of the standard medium weight.

One or more suggested subject headings will be printed at the bottom of the card and enough cards for each title will be furnished to provide an author card and the necessary number of subject cards, the headings to be written at the top of the cards by each library in a form to agree with its own established usage.

The Publishing Section requests that suggestions be made to it at any time of books or sets that might be advantageously cataloged in this way. If the plan meets with success the Section will from time to time send out lists of books or sets for which it is ready to prepare printed cards if the demand warrants the expense. A first list is submitted herewith. For the first group of titles it hopes to receive a good number of subscriptions and the price has been made as low as possible; for the titles in the second group only a few subscriptions can be expected and the price has accordingly been made somewhat higher.

Notice that the price is per hundred *cards*; it may be expected that there will be an average of 2½ cards to each title, so that the number of *cards* received will be about two and a half times as large as the number of *titles* reported.

Subscriptions should be sent in as promptly as possible, as the number of sets printed will depend upon the number of orders received.

Following are the books of composite authorship and sets of periodical publications for which the Section offers to prepare cards:

1 American Association for the Advancement of Science. Proceedings, 1875-1898. (Addresses of the vice-presidents) (145 articles).

2 Depew, Chauncey M. One hundred years of American commerce. N. Y., 1895. 678 p. Q. (100 articles).

3 Great Britain — Parliament. Sessional papers. Important current reports and docu-

ments selected from the full set by the John Crerar Library.

4 *Liber scriptorum*. First book of the Authors Club. N. Y., 1893. 590 p. Q. (109 articles).

5 New York State Museum. Bulletin; Memoirs. 1887-98 (19 articles).

6 Oxford House papers; Ser. 1-3. 1886-1897 (30 articles).

7 Smithsonian Institution. Annual reports for 1886-1896. (The last general index of Smithsonian publications includes the Report for 1885) (277 articles).

8 U. S. Bureau of Ethnology. Annual reports 1879-95 (69 articles).

9 U. S. National Museum. Annual reports for 1886-1894. (The last general index of Smithsonian publications includes the report for 1885) (70 articles).

10 *Abhandlungen Alex. von Oettingen gewidmet*. München, 1898. 262 p. (12 articles).

11 *Aegyptiaca*. Festschrift für Georg Ebers zum 1. März, 1897. Leipzig, 1897. 152 p. (17 articles).

12 *Analecta graeciensia*. Festschrift zur 42. versammlung deutscher philologen. Graz, 1893. 217 p. (11 articles).

13 Festschrift für Prof. D. Fricke. Leipzig, 1897. 192 p. (14 articles).

14 Festschrift zum 70ten geburtstage Oskar Schade. Königsberg, 1896. 415 p. (23 articles).

15 Festschrift zur 50jährigen doktor-jubel-feier Karl Weinholds. Strassburg, 1896. 170 p. (11 articles).

16 Festschrift udgivet i anledning af Trondhjems 900 aars jubilaum 1897. 491 p. (6 articles).

17 *Miscellanea nuziale Rossi-Teiss*. Trento, 1897. 550 p. (27 articles).

18 *Philologisch-historische beiträge* Curt Wachsmuth überreicht. Leipzig, 1897. 214 p. (23 articles).

19 *Satura Viadrina*. Festschrift zum 25jährigen bestehen des philol. vereins zu Breslau. 1896. 159 p. (11 articles).

20 *Symbolae pragenses*. Wien, 1893. 221 p. (15 articles).

21 *Theologische studien* Bernhard Weiss zu seinem 70. geburtstage dargebracht. Göttingen, 1897. 357 p. (11 articles).

22 *Zoologische studien*. Festschrift Wilhelm Lilljeborg zum 80ten geburtstag gewidmet. Upsala, 1896. 359 p. (23 articles).

#### Prices.

Nos. 1-9 At the rate of \$1 per 100 cards.

Nos. 10-22 At the rate of \$2 per 100 cards.

### State Library Commissions.

CONNECTICUT F. P. L. COMMITTEE: Caroline M. Hewins, secretary, Public Library, Hartford, Ct.

GEORGIA LIBRARY COMMISSION: Miss Anne Wallace, secretary, Young Men's Library, Atlanta, Ga.

MASSACHUSETTS STATE L. COMMISSION: Miss E. P. Sohler, secretary, Beverly.

NEW HAMPSHIRE STATE L. COMMISSION: J. H. Whittier, secretary, East Rochester.

NEW YORK: Public Libraries Division, State University, Melvil Dewey, director, Albany.

OHIO STATE L. COMMISSION: C. B. Galbreath, secretary, State Library, Columbus.

VERMONT LIBRARY COMMISSION: Miss M. L. Titcomb, secretary, Public Library, Rutland.

WISCONSIN F. L. COMMISSION: F. A. Hutchins, secretary, Madison; Miss L. E. Stearns, librarian, Milwaukee.

### State Library Associations.

#### CALIFORNIA LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.

*President*: F. J. Teggart, Mechanics' Institute Library, San Francisco.

*Secretary*: R. E. Cowan, 829 Mission Street, San Francisco.

*Treasurer*: Miss Emily I. Wade, Public Library, San Francisco.

The annual meeting of the Library Association of California was held at the California Hotel, Bush street, San Francisco, on Jan. 13. President G. T. Clark in the chair. The business of the meeting was preceded by a dinner, called at 6.30 p.m. Notwithstanding the weather, which was most inclement, the attendance of 34 members was secured, which number includes nearly all residing in the vicinity of the city.

The program was as follows: "The relation of diet to literature," Herbert C. Nash, Stanford; "Some English libraries and those who use them," Prof. Charles M. Gayley, Berkeley; "Browsings among old books," Andrew B. Davis; "Comparison of early and modern English style," Chas. A. Murdock. Each speaker was in turn presented by Mr. Clark, whose remarks formed a clever preface to the subjects presented.

The election of officers for the new year resulted as follows: President, Frederick J. Teggart, Mechanics' Institute Library, San Francisco; Vice-president, Mrs. H. C. Wadleigh, Los Angeles Public Library; Treasurer, Miss E. I. Wade (re-elected); Secretary, Robert E. Cowan, San Francisco. Messrs. Davis and Cowan were appointed committee of audit.

Appropriate remarks were then made by the retiring and newly elected officers, and the meeting was adjourned at 10.30.

The February meeting was held in the Mechanics' Institute Library, President Teggart in the chair. Mr. George T. Clark, of the Free Public Library, reported the passage of assembly bill no. 308, regarding the government of the state library. The appointment of trustees will hereafter be made by the governor, instead of by the legislature, and all the appointments will not be made at one time; greater freedom is also given to the board. One of the chief features of this bill failed to carry—the provision effecting arrangements with the state library for inter-library loans. The subject had been agitated considerably of late, and it is hoped that it may on some future occasion meet with deserved success.

As a part of the regular program, Mr. Earl

A. Walcott, of the San Francisco *Examiner*, read a paper on "Newspapers of to-day." Mr. P. J. Healy followed with entertaining remarks on the same subject. Mr. Teggart, in a talk on "Our library field," gave a general survey of the library question of the Pacific coast, with some sensible remarks on the improvement that might be derived by having better library quarters and more extensive appropriations. Among other topics, he mentioned the establishment of a Pacific coast copyright depository, and the projection of a bibliography of California. Mr. Kimball spoke of the "Present state of travelling libraries and libraries in outside towns," and Mr. J. C. Rowell, of Berkeley, mentioned that Miss Mary L. Jones, formerly of the University of California, had recently been appointed assistant librarian in the Los Angeles Public Library.

The following new members were elected: Miss Allen, of the San Francisco Free Public Library; D. W. Gilbert, of the University of California; Henry K. Goddard, formerly of the San Francisco Mercantile Library.

ROBERT E. COWAN, *Secretary*.

#### COLORADO LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.

*President*: A. E. Whitaker, State University Library, Boulder.

*Secretary*: Herbert E. Richie, City Library, Denver.

*Treasurer*: J. W. Chapman, McClelland Library, Pueblo.

#### CONNECTICUT LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.

*President*: Frank B. Gay, Watkinson Library, Hartford.

*Secretary*: Miss Angeline Scott, Public Library, South Norwalk.

*Treasurer*: Miss Anna G. Rockwell, New Britain Institute, New Britain.

#### GEORGIA LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.

*President*: Miss Anne Wallace, Young Men's Library, Atlanta.

*Secretary-Treasurer*: C. W. Hubner, Atlanta.

#### ILLINOIS STATE LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.

*President*: E. S. Willcox, Public Library, Peoria.

*Secretary*: Miss M. E. Ahern, Public Libraries, 215 Madison St., Chicago.

*Treasurer*: Mrs. Josephine Resor, Public Library, Canton.

The fourth annual meeting of the Illinois State Library Association was held at the University of Illinois, Champaign, Feb. 21-22, 1899. Despite unfavorable weather there was a good attendance, and the meeting proved profitable and pleasant. The first session was opened at 4 p.m. in one of the reading-rooms of the beautiful library building, when an address of welcome was delivered by President Draper. The visitors then adjourned to the library exhibit-room, where an interesting collection of posters, bulletins, etc., was displayed. In the evening a reception was given to the visitors by the social club of the university, and dancing and refreshments closed the enjoyable affair.

On Wednesday morning the delegates were conducted through the various departments of

the university, and at 10 o'clock the first business session was held. In the absence of the president, Mr. Meleney, first vice-president, presided. After presentation of various reports and appointments of several committees, the first subject on the program, "Problems and possibilities of small libraries," was opened with a paper by Elizabeth P. Clarke, of the Evanston Public Library, on "The library and the school." This outlined the various means of facilitating work with children by the use of many graded school libraries of about 100 v. each, by the circulation of mounted pictures, the organization of a library league, reading aloud by the teachers to the children, etc. O. F. Barbour, of the Rockford schools, followed with an account of his own investigations into the extent of the co-operation existing throughout the state between libraries and schools. Miss Lyman, of Scoville Institute, Oak Park, described the children's room of the institute library. At noon adjournment was taken, and the association was entertained at luncheon by President and Mrs. Draper.

The afternoon session opened with a capital paper on "Library exhibits and bulletins," by Miss Evva L. Moore, of Withers Public Library, Bloomington. An account of the plans in progress for the Atlanta meeting of the A. L. A. was made by Mr. F. W. Faxon, and an appeal for a good attendance at that conference was made by Mr. Meleney.

Hervey White, of the John Crerar Library, read an interesting paper on "Libraries for defective, delinquent, and dependent classes," supplemented by reports from officers of various institutions showing general lack of library facilities.

"Instruction in the use of library catalogs" was reviewed by Miss Elizabeth Ellis, of the Peoria Public Library, and Miss A. V. Milner, of the Illinois State Normal Schools, spoke on methods of instruction in the use of reference books in normal schools.

Officers were elected as follows: President, E. S. Willcox, Peoria Public Library; First vice-president, A. A. Hopkins, John Crerar Library, Chicago; Second vice-president, H. H. Cooke, Chicago; Secretary, Miss M. E. Ahern, Public Libraries, Chicago; Treasurer, Mrs. J. H. Resor, Canton Public Library.

O. F. Barbour invited the association to hold its next annual meeting in Rockford, and the invitation was referred to the executive committee. On motion, the executive committee was instructed to correspond with the federation of women's clubs and similar organizations, with a view of securing their co-operation in library legislation and in library work.

The evening session opened with an account of the travelling libraries sent out by women's clubs in Kane county, by Miss Harvey, of Elgin. Mrs. Reed, of Paxton, told of the travelling library recently established by the state library school, and urged the women's clubs of the state to extend and develop the work.

E. S. Willcox, of the Peoria Public Library, spoke on "The library commission of Illinois," referring to the bill drafted under the auspices of the association for introduction into the

legislature, and introduced resolutions requesting the legislature "to take such action as shall lead to the appointment by the governor of a state library commission of five members, to serve without compensation, whose duty it shall be, when asked by the proper authorities, to give advice and counsel to all free libraries in the state, and to all communities which may propose to establish them, as to the best means of establishing and administering such libraries, the selection of books, cataloging, and other details of approved library management."

A second resolution was introduced, referring to the travelling library system, recommending its adoption in the proposed legislation, and urging "that a sum not to exceed \$5000 a year be appropriated by the legislature for the purchase, cataloging, boxing, and care of such libraries, under the supervision of said proposed library commission, and for the salary of a competent secretary, not a member of said commission, and for such necessary expenses as stationery, etc."

Both resolutions were adopted, and the chairman appointed as a committee to prepare a new library bill for presentation to the legislature, E. S. Willcox, Miss K. L. Sharp, and Clement W. Andrews.

President Draper closed the session with a most interesting talk on library work, and after the adoption of a resolution of thanks the association adjourned.

#### INDIANA LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.

*President:* W. E. Henry, State Library, Indianapolis.

*Secretary:* Miss Belle S. Hanna, Public Library, Greencastle.

*Treasurer:* Miss Jessie Allen, Public Library, Indianapolis.

#### IOWA STATE LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.

*President:* W. H. Johnston, Public Library, Fort Dodge.

*Secretary and Treasurer:* Miss Ella McLoney, Public Library, Des Moines.

#### MAINE LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.

*President:* E. W. Hall, Colby University, Waterville.

*Treasurer:* Prof. G. T. Little, Bowdoin College, Brunswick.

#### MASSACHUSETTS LIBRARY CLUB.

*President:* W. H. Tillinghast, Harvard University Library.

*Secretary:* H. C. Wellman, Public Library, Brookline.

*Treasurer:* Miss Margaret D. McGuffy, Public Library, Boston.

#### MICHIGAN LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.

*President:* H. M. Utley, Public Library, Detroit.

*Secretary:* Mrs. A. F. McDonnell, Bay City.

*Treasurer:* Miss Genevieve M. Walton, Normal College Library, Ypsilanti.

#### MINNESOTA LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.

*President:* Dr. W. W. Folwell, State University, Minneapolis.

*Secretary:* Miss Gratia Countryman, Public Library, Minneapolis.

*Treasurer:* Miss Anne Hammond, Public Library, St. Paul.

#### NEBRASKA LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.

*President:* W. E. Jillson, Doane College, Crete.

*Secretary:* Miss Edith Tobitt, Public Library, Omaha.

*Treasurer:* Miss M. A. O'Brien, Public Library, Omaha.

#### NEW HAMPSHIRE LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.

*President:* A. H. Chase, Concord.

*Secretary:* Miss Grace Blanchard, Public Library, Concord.

*Treasurer:* Miss E. A. Pickering, Public Library, Newington.

#### NEW JERSEY LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.

*President:* F. P. Hill, Free Public Library, Newark.

*Secretary:* Miss Clara W. Hunt, Free Public Library, Newark.

*Treasurer:* Miss Cecelia C. Lambert, Public Library, Passaic.

#### NEW YORK LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.

*President:* A. L. Peck, Public Library, Gloversville.

*Secretary:* W. R. Eastman, State Library, Albany.

*Treasurer:* J. N. Wing, Chas. Scribner's Sons, 153 Fifth avenue, New York City.

The New York Library Association met at Poughkeepsie on Wednesday afternoon, Feb. 15. This was the day after the great snow blockade of 1899, and the attendance of members from outside the city was very small. There was, however, a fair attendance of teachers and others interested from the city and from Vassar College.

The afternoon session was held in one of the large rooms of the Adriance Memorial Library. President A. L. Peck, of Gloversville, gave a brief address on the need of a public library for the complete educational equipment of any community, touching on many promising features of the library situation.

The secretary presented a report for the committee on legislation, calling attention to the "education law" now before the legislature, which is a revision of the bill presented last year and contains a provision for local taxation for the support of libraries based on an estimate made in each case by the library trustees and obligatory within a certain maximum tax rate previously fixed by the municipality or district.

A committee was appointed to revise the constitution of the association and report in time for action at the next meeting.

On suggestion of the Utica meeting of May 26, 1898, the election of officers was postponed till the next meeting.

The topic of discussion was the promotion of closer relations between the home, the school, and the library. Inspector Charles Davidson, of the Regents Department, in a practical and suggestive address said that a good library is a necessary condition of the best work in grammar and high schools. Books should be found in every class-room and each teacher should be

alive to their value. No part of the work of education is at once so difficult and so important as advice in the choice of books. It calls for special qualifications, and ideal conditions for guidance are seldom found in any school. The work, if undertaken, broadens beyond the school exchequer, and the aid of the public library therefore becomes essential.

He thought there was no good reason why branch libraries carefully adapted to the needs of each grade in the school should not be furnished by the public library and renewed as often as necessary. It was the duty of the librarian to know what is needed and he should have a recognized footing in the school, perhaps as one of the faculty. The alliance between teacher and librarian should go farther than selection of books. The library and school together should be the centre for home education reaching the adult population.

Dr. Elizabeth B. Thelberg, of Vassar College, presented a delightful paper on "Reading in the home," touching also upon the value of libraries of art and the loaning of pictures.

Miss Agnes Wallace, librarian of the New York Board of Education, presented a plan for selecting and furnishing books to the schools of New York City, in which the aid of the free libraries was expected.

An interesting discussion followed, in which President Peck, Dr. Davidson, L. O. Wiswell, of the State Department of Public Instruction, J. C. Sickley, of Poughkeepsie, Miss Perkins, of Ilion, and others participated.

Half an hour was given to discussion of the best books of 1898. Miss E. G. Thorne, of Port Jervis, who was to have opened the subject of the afternoon, after spending the entire day on various belated railroad trains, arrived about 5 p.m., and rewarded the association by an excellent paper from the librarians' standpoint. The town, she said, is the object of study. The people need knowledge, inspiration, recreation, and profitable occupation. The library can attract by its fresh, clean, inviting atmosphere, with all things neatly ordered. It can suggest by its catalogs, bulletins, and guides. It can reach readers through the press and annotated lists, through clubs and societies. Another class may be reached through branch reading-rooms, and still another class through school life. It can keep in touch with courses of study, announce recent accessions, and lend illustrative material. The library must look to the children for results. One brings others. Individual work will pay. Child study is as valuable to the librarian as to the teacher. The aim of the library will be to supply actual needs of the people, and this may be done by getting beyond our own environment into sympathetic contact with theirs.

At 6 p.m. the members of the association were hospitably entertained at supper.

At eight o'clock a public meeting was held at Vassar Institute. Mayor I. W. Sherrill presided, and welcomed the association. Secretary W. R. Eastman presented a statement of a year of library progress in the state.

President J. M. Taylor, of Vassar College, spoke of the new librarianship that is serving

the community through the children in the schools as contrasted with the former type of keeper of the books who enjoyed infinite leisure to read, and he commended the course of those who feel that reading is not anything unless readers are satisfied, showing that by tactful suggestions of books to be sought and books to be avoided untold good may be accomplished.

Rev. W. B. Hill, of Poughkeepsie, recalled the influence of a little handful of books in a little country town in New Hampshire, of which only a small remnant remain, but a library that had left its mark on the character of many sterling citizens. A farmer most unexpectedly was moved to build a substantial library building, and the enterprise is now maintained at public expense. He emphasized the importance of wise selection of books. Sunday-school libraries might be greatly improved and enlarged on broader lines. Special subjects should be more studied and books laid out in the public library for special calls.

President A. L. Peck approved the substitution of the public library for the Sunday-school libraries as perfectly feasible, and detailed his own experience in this line.

On Thursday morning a few members of the association held an informal session from 10 to 11 at Vassar College. The discussion of the best books of 1898 opened on Wednesday afternoon was continued with profit to those present.

W. R. EASTMAN, *Secretary*.

#### OHIO LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.

*President:* Robinson Locke, Toledo.

*Secretary:* Charles Orr, Case Library, Cleveland.

*Treasurer:* Miss K. W. Sherwood, Public Library, Cincinnati.

*Fifth annual meeting:* Toledo, O., Aug. 9 and 10, 1899.

#### PENNSYLVANIA LIBRARY CLUB.

*President:* Dr. E. J. Nolan, Academy of Natural Sciences, Philadelphia.

*Secretary:* Miss Mary P. Farr, Philadelphia Normal School.

*Treasurer:* Miss Jean E. Graffen, Free Library of Philadelphia.

The February meeting fell upon the night of the worst blizzard experienced in Philadelphia since 1888, and the result was that the meeting was not reached by any of the members, and an adjourned meeting was consequently called for Feb. 27. It was well attended and interesting.

Officers for the ensuing year were elected as follows: President, Dr. E. J. Nolan, librarian of the Academy of Natural Sciences; Vice-presidents, James G. Barnwell (the outgoing president), and Dr. Morris Jastrow, librarian of the University of Pennsylvania. Miss Mary P. Farr and Miss Jean E. Graffen were respectively re-elected secretary and treasurer.

Mr. Barnwell, having inducted Dr. Nolan to the chair as the new president, addressed the club, congratulating them on the successful year just closed, and offered some remarks on the benefit likely to accrue to the club from the

election of Dr. Nolan. The latter made a happy response, and called upon Dr. Thomas H. Montgomery, jr., of the Biological School at the University of Pennsylvania, to address the club on the "Bibliography of zoölogy." His able and interesting address directed attention to the fact that the papers and journals issued from universities both at home and abroad were mainly morphological in their character, while those issued from academies and museums were mainly systematic. He explained in detail the benefits of the system recently adopted of putting alphabetical lists of papers referred to in these writings in an alphabetical order, arranged chronologically at the end of each paper, in lieu of the earlier method (now being gradually abandoned) of referring to each paper quoted, by notes, with sub-notes to notes, and the other confusing methods which give so much trouble to students when reading. He next referred in detail to the international bureau (Concilium Bibliographicum) for the preparation and circulation of catalog cards on the bibliography of zoölogical papers. This system was inaugurated in 1893, and was brought to practical activity in 1895; its headquarters are at Zurich, Switzerland. The titles are cataloged on the Dewey system, and are not only issued in cards but are published annually in book form as well. By this system the whole of the journals of almost innumerable associations and societies which issue them are laid before students in a form readily accessible. As many as 10,000 cards per annum are prepared in this way. He recommended that large public libraries should subscribe to the work executed by this Concilium Bibliographicum. He then touched upon the best works on natural history and the advantages to libraries and students to be gained from a study of Whitman's "Journal of morphology," and the use of the admirable wall charts of zoölogy which are now being issued by the firm of T. G. Fischer.

Some pleasant talk ensued on the recent newspaper discovery of the South American freak, the Boogum. Dr. Montgomery thought it to be a specimen of the sloth. Others thought that Mr. Thomson did not know how to pronounce the word, and that it was really the Boojum of Lewis Carroll fame, while Mr. Warrington, who never agrees with anybody on any subject, was quite satisfied that the animal was the Snark.

An earnest appeal was made to the members to be present at the coming tri-state meeting of the Pennsylvania Library Club, the New Jersey Library Association, and the New York Library Club, at Atlantic City on March 17 and 18.

#### WESTERN PENNSYLVANIA LIBRARY CLUB.

*President:* Miss Helen Sperry, Carnegie Library, Homestead.

*Secretary-Treasurer:* Miss Mary F. Macrum, Carnegie Library, Pittsburgh.

#### VERMONT LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.

*President:* Miss S. C. Hagar, Fletcher Free Library, Burlington.

*Secretary:* Miss M. L. Titcomb, Free Library, Rutland.

*Treasurer:* E. F. Holbrook, Proctor.

#### WISCONSIN STATE LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.

*President:* Mrs. Charles S. Morris, Berlin.

*Secretary:* Miss Minnie M. Oakley, State Historical Society, Madison.

*Treasurer:* Miss Nellie C. Silverthorn, Public Library, Wausau.

The annual meeting of the Wisconsin State Library Association was held at Milwaukee, Feb. 22 and 23. The two business sessions were held in the beautiful new library-museum building, and although the attendance was smaller than usual the meeting proved a very pleasant one.

The first session was held on the afternoon of Feb. 22. An address of welcome was made by Dr. G. W. Peckham, of the Milwaukee Public Library, to which President Birge responded.

The mutual relations of trustees and librarians was the subject presented in two papers by Miss A. M. McDonnell, of Green Bay, and J. H. Jenkins, a trustee of the Oshkosh Public Library, which were followed by a discussion. George Killian, of the Milwaukee Public Library, then spoke on bookbinding in connection with public library work, giving many practical suggestions. After a short discussion there was a question-box symposium on general library topics. In the evening an informal reception was held at the Public Library.

The session of Thursday morning opened with general business and the election of officers. The election resulted as follows: President, Mrs. Charles S. Morris, Berlin; Vice-president, Charles H. Lee, Racine; Secretary, Miss Minnie M. Oakley, Madison; Treasurer, Miss Nellie C. Silverthorn, Wausau. The general topic of "Phases of library extension" was then taken up in a series of short papers and informal discussions. Miss Ella Corwin, of Madison, spoke on "Library organization"; Miss Stella Lucas told of "Travelling libraries" as carried on in Dunn county through the munificence of Senator Stout; a paper by Miss Martha S. Anderson on "Rest rooms for farmers' wives" was read by Miss L. E. Stearns; and one by Miss Kittie Smock on "Amusement rooms," describing the room for boys opened in the Monroe Public Library, was read by Mrs. Alice B. Copeland. The question-box was admirably conducted by Dr. Birge, and proved of general interest and usefulness. The following resolutions were passed:

*Resolved,* That the association co-operate with the state department of public instruction in measures to secure the better binding of books purchased for the libraries of the state.

*Resolved,* That the secretary of the association be requested to secure reports from the libraries of the association as to the binding of books purchased for these libraries.

#### NORTH WISCONSIN TRAVELLING LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.

*President:* Mrs. E. E. Vaughn, Ashland.

*Secretary and Treasurer:* Miss Janet Green, Vaughn Library, Ashland.

The association has now travelling libraries located in half a dozen counties, in the small lumbering towns and farming villages. Appreciative and thankful letters have come by the score from these small towns, as indication that the work of the society has borne good results.

## Library Clubs.

### BAY PATH LIBRARY CLUB.

*President:* Miss Helen S. Carter, Leicester, Mass.

*Secretary:* C. H. Clark, West Brookfield, Mass.

*Treasurer:* Miss Nellie A. Cutter, Spencer, Mass.

A meeting of the Bay Path Library Club was held at the Richard Sugden Library, Spencer, Mass., on Feb. 27. The general subject for consideration was the relations between libraries and schools, considered in papers by Miss Tarbell, of Brimfield, C. D. Hart, of Leicester, and Miss Wilbur, of West Brookfield. After luncheon a second session was held, at which Miss Margaret McGuffey, of the Boston Public Library, presented a paper on charging systems. It was voted to hold the next meeting in June instead of in October.

### LIBRARY CLUB OF BUFFALO.

*President:* H. L. Elmendorf, Public Library.

*Secretary-Treasurer:* Miss Elizabeth D. Renninger, Catholic Institute.

The Library Club of Buffalo met Thursday evening, Feb. 16, by invitation, in the beautiful rooms of the Buffalo Society of Artists, the vice-president, Mr. E. P. Van Duzee, presiding.

The first paper of the evening, giving an account of the Canisius College Library, was delivered by Rev. Robert Schweckerath, S. J., librarian of that institution. Canisius College has a library of over 20,000 volumes, many of them rare old books gathered from the monasteries of Europe, their collection of old Bibles and rare mss. being specially valuable. Father Schweckerath gave a very good account also of their library methods, which, though not Dewey, the club found far from dry.

Another treat awaited the club in the shape of a paper on "Greek art," delivered by Mrs. Graves, of the Society of Artists. For almost an hour Mrs. Graves discussed this most interesting subject, illustrating by means of the beautiful pieces of sculpture in the society's valuable collection. At the conclusion of the talk a vote of thanks was tendered Mrs. Graves, and the club adjourned to inspect at leisure the art treasures of the society and to indulge in social intercourse.

ELIZABETH D. RENNINGER, *Secretary*.

### CHICAGO LIBRARY CLUB.

*President:* H. W. Gates, Hammond Library.

*Secretary:* C. B. Roden, Public Library, Chicago.

*Treasurer:* Miss M. E. Ahern, Public Libraries, 215 Madison street.

### NEW YORK LIBRARY CLUB.

*President:* Arthur E. Bostwick, N. Y. Free Circulating Library.

*Secretary:* Frank Weitenkamp, N. Y. Public Library.

*Treasurer:* Miss Theresa Hitchler, N. Y. Free Circulating Library.

The meeting at the Young Women's Christian Association, 7 East 16th street, New York City, on Feb. 16, was called to order by President Bostwick at four p.m. It had been intended to make this practically (though not in name) a joint meeting of the N. Y. State Library Association and the N. Y. Library Club. But the weather interfered, and only a few out-of-town members of the state association were present.

Miss Wallace, of the N. Y. City Board of Education and the Cathedral Library, was elected to membership. Motions to accept two recommendations of the executive committee — 1, that the dinner committee be authorized to spend not more than \$50; 2, that the next meeting be adjourned from March 9 to March 17, and held in conjunction with the Pennsylvania Library Club and the New Jersey Library Association, at Atlantic City — were unanimously passed.

The program of the meeting: "Reports of library progress from the various libraries represented in the club" was begun by Mr. Eastman with a general report on library progress in the state, the main facts of which are given elsewhere.

The first of the individual libraries dealt with was the N. Y. Public Library, Mr. Eames reporting for the Lenox building and Mr. Weitenkamp for the Astor. The former spoke of the new reading-room — formerly an exhibition-room. This contains the music collection (comprising the Drexel library of about 6000 vols., and the Music section of about 2500 vols., transferred from the Astor), and the works on genealogy, and American local history (about 12,000 vols.). "Music" and "genealogy" each have their separate catalog, that for the former being in great part finished. The "free reference shelves" at the Lenox contain about 4000 vols. The department of manuscripts is being put into shape, the department of maps is also being arranged, and has been increased by transfers from the Astor.

Mr. Weitenkamp stated that the library is accessioning and shelving books at the rate of about 33,000 vols. and 20,000 pamphlets per year. Besides the indexing (printed) done in co-operation with four other libraries, the library indexes (written cards) a number of magazines in various languages, mainly technical and scientific. The prospects for the new building look bright, and "we hope to break ground, or rather to begin tearing down the old reservoir, this spring."

Miss Pauline Leipziger gave the following facts about the Aguilar Library: Circulation in 1898 for entire library, 503,033 vols., an increase of 52,448; percentage of juveniles, about 50. 13,113 vols. added; 55,190 vols. now in the four libraries. New reference-room opened in East Broadway, and children's room will have to be provided. New catalog to be printed at 59th street branch. New building partly completed. 5th street branch shows increase of 50 per cent. over last year, and expects to move to larger quarters.

Miss Kelso, stating that the circulation of



1898 was less in many libraries than in 1897, was answered by Mr. Eastman, who said that the *general* statistics showed no such falling off in the Borough of Manhattan.

Miss Wallace, speaking for the Cathedral Library, reported a new branch opened in 69th street. Miss Husted, of the Y. W. C. A. Library, spoke of the open-shelf system in use since the library was started, and always popular, and said that in her opinion the inconveniences of the plan were far outweighed by its advantages.

Mr. Bursch, of the Y. M. C. A. Library, stated that funds having been furnished by a new trustee—the cataloging of books for the circulating-department-to-be had been begun. The 7000 vols. left at the 23d street building seem to attract almost as many readers as before the moving. Miss Gibson reported that the St. Agnes Library had moved from 91st street to 85th street and Amsterdam avenue in April. The circulation in 1898 was about 91,000, a considerable increase.

The N. Y. Free Circulating Library, said Mr. Bostwick, now circulated at the rate of about 1½ millions per year. Increase in circulation is due to a large extent to the establishment of new libraries, a significant fact, showing that there is room for many more branches and a corresponding increase. The open-shelf system, when once begun, has been literally forced upon the library by the public. This appears to be the ultimate fate of all free circulating libraries in the city.

For the Newark Library, Miss Winsor reported: Corner-stone of new building laid on Jan. 26. Travelling libraries started among the schools. A number of Polish books added; other foreign ones to come, notably Lithuanian.

Mr. Richardson gave these facts about Princeton: Additions to building completed at cost of \$600,000; old building entirely remodelled as a reading-room. New building open from 8 a.m. to 10 p.m. 15 rooms set aside for special studies. Many gifts received.

Miss Plummer described changes at the Pratt Institute. She recommended the plan adopted in the children's library, where a wooden sheathing on the walls is covered with heavy burlaps, painted, on which thumb-tacks leave no mark, so that the entire place is available as an exhibition-room. A new charging system adopted in the children's room shows call-numbers of books taken. Letters to 78 teachers increased the number of those interested in the work. A small experiment in open shelves (1000 vols.) is about to be tried. Exhibitions, such as those of animal pictures and foreign dolls, are very popular in the children's department.

Answering Mr. Bostwick's query regarding any large library built specially for free access, Miss Winsor stated that in Newark's new building there would be free access in all departments. Miss Kelso and Mr. Eastman spoke of the fact that in large libraries access to *all* books was not thought desirable. Mr. Bostwick thought that the main feature of the large

libraries should be an immense open-shelf room. Mr. Weitenkampf referred to the new building of the New York Public Library, with its proposed open shelves in the great reading-room.

Mr. Peck, of Gloversville, said that he paid less attention to large circulation than to the number of readers, the manner of reading, and the matter read. He thought literary clubs a good medium for the dissemination of knowledge, although unfortunately consisting almost entirely of women.

Other reports of library progress were made by Mrs. F. N. Doubleday and W. F. Stevens, and a written report was read from Miss A. R. Van Hoevenberg.

The question of reserving books for readers was briefly discussed, and Mr. Eastman asked for general interest in the list of 500 books recently sent out.

The meeting adjourned at 6 p.m., and was succeeded in the evening by a reception and dinner at the Hotel St. Denis. Despite unfavorable weather there were about 60 persons present, and the occasion proved most enjoyable. John Jay Chapman was the speaker of the evening, and he made a brilliant and forceful plea for recognition of individuality and genius in literature, pointing out the absolute lack at the present day of any true canons of criticism, and the soul-deadening triumph of commercialism over letters. He urged that librarians lend their influence to set up a true standard of literary criticism and that they demand the best books, not the books that sell best.

F. WEITENKAMPF, *Secretary*.

#### LIBRARY ASSOCIATION OF WASHINGTON CITY.

*President*: Dr. H. Carrington Bolton, Cosmos Club.

*Secretary*: F. H. Parsons, U. S. Naval Observatory.

*Treasurer*: T. L. Cole, Statute Law Book Co.

*Meetings*: Second Wednesday Evening of each month.

The 37th regular meeting of the Library Association of Washington City was held at the Columbian University, Feb. 8, 1899, Dr. H. C. Bolton presiding.

The executive committee reported the election to membership of Mr. H. P. Brown, librarian of the Department of Labor, also the remission of the dues of the secretary and treasurer during their incumbency of office.

In accordance with a motion passed at a previous meeting the president appointed the following committee to ascertain the feasibility of the association arranging a meeting to be held in May next with the members of the A. L. A., when they pass through the city *en route* to or from Atlanta.

Dr. Adler then gave an "Account of the second conference on an International Catalogue of Scientific Literature," prefacing his remarks with a brief account of the first conference, and then giving interesting details of the proceedings of the second conference, supplemented

with a short description of the social features of the meeting and personal sketches of members. His remarks elicited brief talks from Prof. Cleveland Abbe, Dr. Gill, Mr. Cutter, Mr. Solberg, Mr. Burchard, and Mr. Hansen.

Mr. A. P. C. Griffin's paper, entitled "A biographical sketch of the late John Russell Young," was read by Dr. Bolton, Mr. Griffin being personally unable to attend. The paper paid a high tribute to the sterling qualities which characterized Mr. Young, and to his zeal and fidelity in the work on which he was engaged. On motion, a committee, composed of Messrs. Parsons, Cutter, and Cole, was appointed to draw up suitable resolutions on the death of Mr. Young.

WM. L. BOYDEN, *Secretary*.

## Library Schools and Training Classes.

### AMHERST SUMMER SCHOOL.

THE Summer School in Library Economy, conducted as a department of the Sauveur Summer School, Amherst, Mass., by Mr. W. I. Fletcher, librarian of Amherst College, will hold its usual six weeks' session July 10-August 18, 1899. The fee for the course is \$15; application blanks and full information may be had by addressing W. I. Fletcher, Amherst, Mass.

### NEW YORK STATE LIBRARY SCHOOL.

#### PUBLIC SPEAKING.

THE work in dictionary cataloging under the instruction of Miss Edith D. Fuller, and in elementary classification with Miss Ada Bunnell, has been varied by club work of different sorts. There has developed among the students a strong realization of the fact that librarians should be able to speak in public intelligently, clearly, and with sufficient ease and grace and persuasive power to carry their point. A college course does not always insure this preparation. Out of this sentiment among the students have grown various plans for securing practice in speaking. The ozo club, whose formation was mentioned in the February JOURNAL, held a mock mass-meeting of the citizens of Albany called to consider the imaginary gift of the Van Rensselaer Knickerbocker, Jr., Memorial Library, of Albany, N. Y., the terms of the gift specially providing that the library should never be opened on Sunday. Various prominent citizens and city officials were heard from, a socialist had his say, and resolution and counter-resolution followed each other with apparent spontaneity.

In the library seminar of the senior class mock trustees' meetings are the feature of the year. The class, including the leader of the seminar, is organized as a board of trustees, each student in turn posing as librarian and submitting a request for some change, e.g., from a fixed to a relative location, for a new cataloger to make available the resources of the library by doing full analytical work, for a skilled reference librarian with an adequate

salary. The trustees are privileged to be conservative, indifferent, and even crotchety, while the librarian is supposed to keep his temper, to reply to objections, and to win his case if possible.

The junior class after electing as officers—President Frederick W. Ashley, Secretary-treasurer Miss Florence A. Paine—adopted a unique plan. Meetings are held every two weeks. The presiding officer, chosen by lot, has autocratic power, arranges a program, and by a variety of devices secures that each student shall be called up to speak at a moment's notice on an assigned subject. I have had the honor of an invitation to each of the meetings and am now inclined to believe that, leaving out oratory, speakers are made, not born.

Experience forces me to the conviction that an all-round development, the ability to talk in public and in private, to investigate, and to write, to think, to read, and to communicate the love of reading to others, to please by the graces of character and by personal charm, as well as to command respect, is the ideal toward which library training must tend.

#### SOCIAL.

The junior class entertained the senior class and the faculty by a sleigh ride 10 miles into the country. Those of us who did not brave the record-breaking weather of Feb. 10 rued our caution when we heard of the good times we had missed.

A dance was enjoyed by about 30 of the school and staff on the evening of Washington's birthday at the beautiful rooms of the Historical Society. It was arranged by Miss Gertrude P. Wood, of the class of 1900.

The senior class, every member being present, spent a pleasant evening at the home of Mrs. Fairchild.

An exhibit of amateur photography work done by the library school and staff will be held the first week in April. All previous students are cordially invited to take part by sending prints of their own work.

#### BOOK SELECTION AND ANNOTATION.

Mr. George Iles gave an address on "Evaluation of books" Feb. 10. The plan, which is familiar to all readers of the JOURNAL, was as usual enthusiastically received by the students.

The knowledge of a large number of books on a great variety of subjects so essential for a librarian compels much time given to superficial reading and to reading trivial, ephemeral, and even worthless books. This tends to crowd out solid reading. For his own sake, for the sake of his library whose interests demand a mind strong to meet strenuous problems, for the sake of his profession which claims his contribution in co-operative book selection, every librarian should be master of the solid literature of some one field, however small. To meet this need, a modification of the plan for reading seminar work, described in the LIBRARY JOURNAL for January, 1897, p. 41, is being made. Students may substitute for part of the 100

current books taken up any book of worth and permanent value which he has read during the course. A reader's note submitted for this book, if accepted, excuses him from two and possibly more than two notes on the current seminar books. It is supposed that these substituted books shall usually be in some one line, approved by the director of the seminar. Each student can have as a result of the year's work the notes for all substituted books as well as the best note written by any one in the school on the regular seminar books.

SALOME CUTLER FAIRCHILD.

UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS STATE LIBRARY  
SCHOOL.

The library club of the school has issued an attractive set of views of the exterior and interior of the library building, in pamphlet form, tied with ribbons of blue and orange—the university colors.

### Reviews.

BROWN, James D. *Manual of library classification and shelf arrangement*. London, Library Supply Co., 1898. 160 p. D.

Our English brethren have been more prolific in books on other branches of library economy than on cataloging and classification. This is the first work in that line since Edwards' "Memoirs of libraries," 1859. It is a modest book, and does not profess to tell everything about the subject. The first chapter, "General considerations," gives an insight, by way of retrospect and comparison, into the English methods of book numbering which, to those American librarians who did not attend the International Conference of 1897, is particularly interesting. Most of us are so used to movable location of some sort that fixed location is a shadow and a myth. But there are libraries, sad to say, in which subjects are as badly mixed as on page 16 of this manual, for example, and also there are some bad examples of fixed location. Mr. Brown's arguments for relative location are good, and judging from the four English library periodicals relative location is coming in and coming to stay. The second chapter, given to "Classification of knowledge," has some valuable tables, but why the author should give two tables of arrangement of zoological knowledge, two of botany, and slight chemistry, geology, mineralogy, and crystallography, is a mystery. Chapter 3, "Classification of books and catalogues," and chapter 4, on "Schemes for the classification of books" conjoined with shelf notations, are for us the most valuable ones in the book. No such résumé has existed before, and I find the book used in the library schools as a text-book for this very thing. All the systems worth consideration are fully and candidly represented here. Full credit is cheerfully given to Mr. Cutter and Mr. Dewey for their ingenious schemes of classification and book-marking.

"Classified libraries and catalogues" are treated in chapter 5, which is a strong and fair

presentation of the subject, written, of course, with reference to the English public. Chapter 6, on "Adjustable classification scheme," is introductory to Mr. Brown's own tables of adjustable classification, and explains their use. Of course to us this system of classification and notation is not a practical thing. It was not compiled for us, but for our English brethren. The scheme is: A, Science; B, Useful arts; C, Fine and recreative arts, general; D, Social science, general; E, Philosophy and religion, general; F, History and geography, general; G, Biography and correspondence, general, collective; H, Language and literature, general; J, Poetry and the drama, general; K, Prose fiction; L, Miscellaneous. Under each section are numbered classes on even numbers running from 18 up to 1300 numbers, as the case may be. In his remarks about applying the scheme considerable latitude is left for inter-cataloging classes and making sub-classes, thus warranting the term "adjustable." For the class of English public libraries for which it is made it is an admirable scheme and must be a great improvement on the existing disorder of things. It gives more space to the national affairs than any foreign scheme could do, and some parts are very fully worked out; as, for instance, Musical instruments and Recreative arts. English local history and geography is very full in geographical divisions, and other countries are well represented. The only place I would take serious exception to is "Miscellaneous"; this is well classified, it is true, but it is too much of a temptation to a lazy or careless worker.

On the whole, Mr. Brown is to be congratulated on a good piece of work.

G. E. WIRE.

WISCONSIN STATE HISTORICAL SOCIETY. *Annotated catalogue of newspaper files in the library*; prepared under the editorial direction of R. G. Thwaites, secretary, and I. S. Bradley, librarian, by Emma Helen Blair. Madison, 1898. 12+376 p. O.

The publication of this catalog, at the close of the first half century of the Wisconsin State Historical Society, marks the conclusion of the important work undertaken four years ago, and adds a new and important tool to the equipment of the historical student. The catalog is, in fact, almost as much a history of the newspaper press in general as an index to the society's collection in particular, and its value as a general reference book on the subject should even exceed its special usefulness in the society's library. The collection cataloged includes some 10,000 volumes, representative of every state and territory in the Union with the exception of four—Idaho, Montana, Oklahoma, and Wyoming—and of many foreign countries, the latter being represented by 282 titles. In its general arrangement the catalog is simple and adequate. There are two main divisions, geographical and chronological, following the two lines that investigation would be most likely to take. In the

former the arrangement is alphabetic by location, first under state and then under town, the record for the United States being followed by that for foreign countries. In alphabetizing names of newspapers no attention has been paid to the designations *Daily*, *Weekly*, *Evening*, *Morning*, etc., but the alphabetic place is determined by the first distinctive word. This division contains annotations and full entries; but the shaping of the catalog in its present form having been largely a matter of growth, many of the earlier portions are practically without annotations, these having increased in number and extent as the work developed. Part 2 is the chronological record, unannotated and abbreviated, covering the period 1588 to date, and referring to part 1 for details. A full index, covering 54 two-column pages, is an indispensable supplement, giving clue to the material presented in the annotations, and in particular listing the names of every person so mentioned. Owing to the length of time the work has been in progress there are some discrepancies in the periods covered by the different sections. Thus the first part, up to Wisconsin, shows the state of the collection up to the close of 1894, the Wisconsin section is brought up to the end of 1895, while the "United States addenda" (32 pages) and the foreign list are carried to July, 1898.

The annotations are, of course, the special feature of the work. Ranging from a single sentence to 20 lines or more of nonpareil, they reveal an amount of research, of careful painstaking detail, that only those who have ventured into similar bibliographical bypaths can appreciate. Changes of politics, of name, of form or place of issue, of editorship, are recorded with exactitude of dates, so that the notes furnish not only an historical record of a given paper, but taken altogether afford material for a general history of the newspaper press. Among the items that find place in the notes may be instanced the record of Charles Reade's libel suit against the New York *Round Table* in 1870, for its unfavorable review of his novel, "Griffith Gaunt"; mention of the terms "gerrymander" and "era of good feeling" as originating in the *Columbian Sentinel*, of Boston; and record of Jefferson's comment that the Philadelphia *National Gazette* "saved our constitution, which was galloping fast into monarchy." Newspapers of a special class — Mormon, Musical, Negro, Federalist, Pro-slavery, Temperance, Woman's suffrage — are grouped under their respective "doxies" in the index, though the progressive development of the notes has probably prevented an absolutely complete enumeration. Many of the files in the collection are broken, indeed frequently there is only a single number of a newspaper on record, and the gaps are noted with the same careful detail that is apparent in the notes. Reproductions and facsimiles are indicated and the existence of indexes is recorded.

Naturally there are many rare and curious items in the collection. The earliest original file is that of the *Mercurius Aulicus* of Oxford, for 1643-45 (incomplete), the newspapers of

1588-1679 being facsimile reprints. A broken set of the *Boston Gazette* for 1719-24 is the oldest American journal listed. Among the 18th century American papers are Franklin's rare *Pennsylvania Gazette*, 1728-89, which, though incomplete, contains almost all the numbers for 1775-77, the volumes for these three years being quoted at \$500 by dealers; the *Pennsylvania Packet* (1785-1790), the first daily paper in America; the *Boston News Letter*; the *Richmond Virginia Gazette*, and other important items; there is also a considerable collection of English journals of the same period; while the pro- and anti-slavery organs and the chief newspapers of the civil war, both north and south, find adequate representation. It is impracticable to note more fully the interest, variety, and comprehensiveness of the collection as revealed by this catalog. It can only be said that historical students no less than bibliographers owe a debt of gratitude to the compiler, Miss Blair, to whose painstaking research and expert work the editors make due acknowledgment, and that in the preparation and publication of the catalog the Wisconsin State Historical Society has performed a direct service to research.

## Library Economy and History.

### GENERAL.

**LIBRARY PRIMER.** The chapters on elementary library work, published about two years since in successive numbers of *Public Libraries*, and entitled "A. L. A. primer," are announced for early publication by the Library Bureau, in revised and extended form, under the title "A library primer." Mr. J. C. Dana, the original compiler, has remodelled the material and prepared it for publication. The "primer" will be fully illustrated, will contain suggestive lists of periodicals, reference books, etc., and will aim to give a fairly comprehensive outline of library establishment, organization, and management. It touches also upon library buildings and their equipment, and the broader field of library work found in schools, clubs, etc.

**SANITATION OF PUBLIC LIBRARIES.** (*In Medical Record*, Feb. 4, 1899. 55: 165.)

An editorial criticising the almost uniformly bad ventilation of public library reading-rooms, with special reference to the Astor Library and Cooper Union, New York.

**STEVENSON, E. Irenæus.** A musical reference library. (*In Harper's Bazar*, March 4, 1899. 32: 183.) 4½ col.

Lists books on music for the reference department of a town library or a musical club, with notes, etc.

### LOCAL.

**Albany, N. Y. Y. M. A. L.** A bill has been introduced in the legislature amending the charter of the Young Men's Library in such manner as to provide for its administration as a free public library.

**Atlanta, Ga. Y. M. L. A.** Andrew Car-

negie's offer of \$100,000 for a free public library, on condition that the city give \$5000 a year for its support, is now before the finance committee of the city council, with every prospect of a favorable report and acceptance by the council. In transmitting the offer to the council, Mayor Woodward sent a short message urging its adoption. The Young Men's Library Association at the same time asked that a committee be appointed from the general council, to act jointly with a committee from the association, looking to the idea of merging the present Young Men's Library and the Carnegie donation. "If this can be accomplished the condition of the site will be settled, and Atlanta should, in the very near future, be provided with a first-class free circulating library."

A difficulty that has been raised as to the acceptance of the gift is the question of its use by the negro population. On Feb. 27 this question was put to the local agent of the Carnegie company by two negro preachers, who asked what interpretation Mr. Carnegie would place on the word "public" in his offer. It was stated that the matter would be determined by the trustees of the fund. It is probable that if the offer is accepted, provision will be made for a separate public library for negroes. A scheme to prevent friction on this account, and to provide free libraries for white and black citizens, which shall be kept apart, but both receive city support, is now being considered.

*Baltimore, Md. Enoch Pratt F. L.* (13th rpt. — year ending Jan. 1, 1899.) Added 8747; total 189,978. Issued, home use 659,527 (fict. and juv. 69 %); reading-room use 101,255. The total circulation of 760,782 showed a gain of about 33,000 over 1897. "A steady growth of the reference department" is noted. New registration 6469; cards in force 36,223. Expenses for the year were \$49,404.96, of which \$23,347.77 were for salaries.

There are now six branches in operation, and increased reference use has been noticeable in all, though the relative popularity of fiction is shown to be much greater in the branches than in the main library. During the year there have been numerous changes in *personnel*; the posts of assistant librarian, head cataloger, superintendent of the reference department, and librarian's private secretary became vacant and were filled by promotions of those on the staff. An experiment was tried in the line of delivering books to schools and other institutions; the reference department has been reorganized; and part 5 of the 6th edition of the central finding list has been published.

*Baltimore, libraries of.* A series of articles on libraries of Baltimore is begun in the February number of *The New Pedagogue*, of that city, with a paper on the Enoch Pratt Library, by S. H. Ranck, who gives special attention to the pedagogical collection of the library and the use of its books by teachers.

*Boston Athenaeum L.* (Rpt. — year ending Dec. 31, 1898.) Added 4367; estimated total 189,502. Issued 52,290. "The report for 1897 called attention to the condition of the valuable

sets of newspapers in the library. While much was done in that year to preserve the longer sets, by rebinding and by placing each volume flat on a shelf, many volumes remained to be cared for. This year 552 shelves have been built and 22 volumes have been rebound, so that an inconsiderable amount of work in the coming year will put our collection in good condition. Books illustrating two striking events of the year, the war with Spain and the Dreyfus case, have been collected with an aim to satisfy future as well as present interest. A number of books published in the south during the civil war have been added to our already valuable collection of Confederate literature, and this department is now being rearranged."

The revision of the shelf classification and the copying of the old shelf lists have made good progress.

*Brooklyn (N. Y.) P. L.* The report of Mrs. Craigie, director, for the year ending Dec. 31, 1898, was submitted on Feb. 8. The following figures were given: Added 6235, of which 2927 were gifts; total 10,816. Issued 80,289. No. borrowers 4798; total attendance 98,965. There seems to be some variation in what are presumably the same statistics in different parts of the report, and the method of stating number of borrowers is misleading, as the figure for each month is inclusive of the months preceding and the 12 totals are then added up — giving a final record for the main library of 32,659 instead of the correct showing of 3560. The record for the Bedford Park branch is given separately. Mrs. Craigie says: "The first branch of the library was opened December, 1897, in old School No. 3, offered by the board of education as a temporary home. The sum of \$5000 had been appropriated by the city that year, and of that amount \$4000 was spent for books, and the balance on magazines, periodicals, furnishing of rooms, repairs, etc. The books were not ready for circulation until the first week of January, 1898. The library in School No. 3 received notice on Dec. 20 that the board of education would require the rooms for the use of pupils, and they were requested to vacate by Jan. 1, 1899. That being impossible, the time was extended and temporary quarters being offered by Mr. Cooper, on the corner of Fulton street and Bedford avenue, the library moved Jan. 12. The work of packing the 10,000 books, removing the furniture, fittings, etc., being accomplished in one day."

At the February meeting of the board of trustees the matter of appointing a librarian was the chief subject of consideration. The names of several well-known librarians were under consideration, but decision was deferred until the next board meeting. In reporting the meeting, one of the local papers stated incorrectly that Mr. W. E. Foster, of Providence, was a candidate for the position. This was an error, as Mr. Foster had unqualifiedly refused to consider any suggestion of a change from his present post. At the March meeting, held March 8, A. E. Bostwick, of the New York Free Circulating Library, was elected librarian.

*Brooklyn, N. Y. Flatbush P. L.* The library established under the auspices of the Brooklyn Public Library Association was opened on Feb. 22.

*Brooklyn, N. Y. Long Island Hist. Soc. L.* (Rpt. — year ending April 30, 1898.) Added 1841; total 60,404. Total membership 914. Receipts \$11,083.43; expenses \$9045.65. The chief accessions of the year are noted.

*California lib. legislation.* The California legislature has passed a bill practically reorganizing the state library. The bill authorizes the appointment of the trustees of the state library by the governor, in such manner as to provide for gradual change of membership of the board. The appointment of the state librarian is also now vested in the governor. The bill will probably effect a general reorganization of the library force. The measure, as introduced, provided for inter-library loans from the state library, and was designed to bring the public libraries of California into associate relations with the state library, but this provision failed to carry.

*Erie (Pa.) P. L.* On Feb. 16 the new library building was dedicated, with elaborate exercises. The library, which is the first in the state to be organized under the law of 1895, was originally a small collection of books stored in and used by the Erie high school. The movement to reorganize it as a free public library dates from July, 1890, when it was voted that all fines collected from the city aldermen, and payable to the school district, according to law, be credited to the library fund. Public meetings were held and the matter was kept before the public for several years, but with no results, and in 1894 an act "providing for the establishment of free public libraries in school districts" was drafted by those interested in the library and submitted to the legislature, where in June, 1895, it was passed in somewhat modified form, and became the library law of 1895. A site was given for the proposed library by Mrs. Myron Sanford and Miss Laura Sanford, and on Sept. 10, 1895, the corner-stone of the prospective library was laid. A dollar-subscription plan was started and failed, and public interest waned; and finally early in 1896 a library board was organized under the law of 1895 and work was actively begun. On March 17, 1896, a site for the building was purchased by the board of education, the cost of site and building being provided for by a special appropriation of \$80,000; this site, with the adjoining land given for the purpose by Mrs. Sanford, and an additional strip later purchased, gave ample ground for the library building, plans for which were accepted from Alden & Harlow, of Pittsburgh.

The building is a handsome one, in the style of the Italian Renaissance. It has a base of granite, extending to the first floor windowsills; the body is of vitrified Pompeian brick of brown effect; the cornice, roof balustrade, Corinthian pilaster capitals, and window trimmings of white terra-cotta. The portico is of white Georgia marble with Ionic capitals. From this portico there is a main entrance through a

vestibule and corridor, wainscoted and tiled with marble, into the main rotunda. The rotunda occupies the centre of the building and extends to the roof, and here the dedicatory exercises were held; it has an arched gallery on the second floor, terminating in a skylight, and the finish is a combination of marble and mahogany. The building contains the usual offices for the librarian and assistants, a general reading-room, a children's reading-room, an historical-room, an art-room, a periodical-room, a reference-room, a mechanics' reading-room, a museum, special libraries, and a stack-room with a capacity of 150,000 volumes. In addition the board of education has convenient and commodious offices, complete in finish and equipment. Its entire cost amounts to over \$150,000. The librarian, Charles E. Wright, and his two assistants, Miss K. M. Mack and Miss M. C. Brooks, are graduates of the Pratt Institute Library School. The library opens with 9500 volumes on the shelves.

*Evanson (O.) P. L.* A children's league has just been established.

*Hagerstown, Md.* It is probable that the efforts made to establish a free library through the bequest of B. F. Newcomer, made in 1898, will not succeed. Mr. Newcomer offered to give \$50,000 for a free library, on condition that a \$20,000 building be erected and that the sum of \$2500 be appropriated annually in perpetuity for running expenses (*See L. J.*, 23:77). The Hagerstown authorities agreed to make the tax levy, but their action was criticised. Later an appeal was issued for public subscriptions for the \$20,000 building fund, but the responses were meagre. The disinclination to accept his offer has drawn from Mr. Newcomer an announcement that if his offer is not accepted by June 1 it will be withdrawn. He says: "From the indifference manifested by the public at large and the adverse criticisms of some of your citizens, I am fast reaching a conclusion that such an institution is not wanted, and that I had better withdraw the offer made by me, as it is not practicable that it should stand open indefinitely."

*Illinois lib. legislation.* In accordance with the resolutions passed at the recent conference of the Illinois State Library Association (*see p. 114*), the committee of that association have drafted a bill for introduction into the present legislature. The bill is entitled "an act to provide general travelling libraries for the rural districts of the state, and for a board of library commissioners to have charge of the same and promote the establishment and efficiency of free public libraries." It provides for the establishment of a state library commission, modelled in part upon that of Wisconsin, and appropriates \$5000 annually for expenses, salary of secretary, etc.

*Iowa, library statistics for 1898.* According to statistics gathered by W. H. Johnston, of Fort Dodge, president of the Iowa State Library Association, good library progress has been made in the state during the year. 172 libraries show an increase over the report for 1895 of

126,036 volumes, and a total of volumes in the libraries of the state of 722,088, divided as follows :

	In- crease.	Total vols.
State institutions.....	19	119,268
College and academic libraries, including State University and Iowa City College.	47	216,797
Free public libraries.....	36	280,229
Subscription libraries.....	32	85,931
Public school and high school libraries.....	32	35,899
Miscellaneous libraries.....	12	81,934

Evidence of progress is seen in the increase of free public libraries from 25 to 36, including the Kendall Young Free Library, of Webster City. Among them those of Cedar Rapids, Iowa City, Waterloo, Marshalltown, and Grinnell are especially marked by the vigor with which they have entered the field of free library work. Forest City is entitled to be counted among free libraries, though it has bought no books yet, but is building a \$2000 library to put them in. Burlington ranks third largest in the number of volumes credited to different cities. Only Des Moines and Council Bluffs have larger libraries. The women's clubs of Carroll and Charlton have turned over to these cities their libraries, and are conducting them as free libraries, in the hopes that their cities will, at the next election, vote to establish free libraries.

*Kansas State L., Topeka.* The affairs of the State Library have been brought into prominence by the resignation of W. G. Todd, assistant librarian. Mr. Todd's resignation was the result of friction between himself and Mrs. Annie L. Diggs, the state librarian, regarding the bill creating a travelling library department now pending in the legislature. Since his resignation he has prepared several statements setting forth the various weaknesses of the library management. He urges that a "correspondence aid" department be established, by means of which inquirers in remote parts of the state might receive direct help at the actual cost of transcription of desired information, and he suggests that this should supplement the proposed travelling library adjunct. In the *Topeka Capital* of Feb. 19 he makes detailed criticism of the library administration. The selection of books, he says, is neither well rounded nor adapted to the requirements of a state library. Instances mentioned are the purchase for \$375 of Kingsborough's "Mexican antiquities," which has since been stored in a vault uncataloged and unused; considerable purchases of fiction, some of which, as Daudet's "Sappho," Mr. Todd considered undesirable for general reading-room use, and inattention to requests for timely and important books and to special lists of desirable purposes. He says:

"There should not be purchased, for instance, volume 2 of a valuable work which students are waiting for, and then three months later volume 3, leaving volume 1 still wanting. This is an actual case, and when I have asked my superior officer if we cannot have volume 1 I am made to feel very humble; to feel that I know little about the publication of books, for I am informed that volume 1 is not ordered for the simple reason that it is not yet published !

"A blacksmith's shop must be conducted by a blacksmith, a grocery by a grocer, a social reform must be led by consistent socialists, and for the needs of students in a library there must somewhere be some officer of literary appreciation and judgment. If there is not, and the library is a state library, then it is the business of the state to know why not — especially when thousands of dollars more are asked for to be applied in more extensive work which will virtually fall into the same hands."

It is complained that the rules as to issuing books for home use are frequently violated, and that no definite regulations on the subject have been made, that "unauthorized and unofficial persons have constantly been allowed to carry books from the library rooms without any record being made of them, or any information being given the assistant; and in a number of cases I have found books circulating about the city which had been purchased for the library but never entered in its catalog, or stamped with the library stamp, or entered in the accession book; and, indeed, the people using them have sometimes innocently returned them in this condition to me."

Of the organization of the library force he says: "Each officer should know his own official position, his rights and duties, and the salary of one officer should not be so entirely in the hands of another as to make it, and with it his position, depend upon the whims, caprices, prejudices, and even ignorance of that other. In the absence of such organization chaos is likely to reign, and if any assistant desires to speak the truth he is obliged to resign his position in order to obtain this freedom. The appropriations are made for the library in a lump. The librarian is allowed a certain sum for help or assistance. If one offends the slightest whim of the librarian he is likely to be dropped at once. The librarian within her province has as much power to oppress her subordinates as has the Czar of Russia."

In view of the fact that the state will be asked to spend some \$20,000 in fitting up the new library-rooms in the north wing of the state house Mr. Todd urges the need of thorough reorganization.

On Feb. 11 James L. King, former state librarian, was appointed assistant librarian, succeeding Mr. Todd.

*Kansas City (Mo.) P. L.* A display of valentines made by school-children of Kansas City was held at the library on Feb. 14. Over 1000 valentines were shown in the children's room, and children from almost all the schools contributed.

*Keene (N. H.) P. L.* The library building presented to Keene by the late Edward Carrington Thayer was dedicated on Feb. 28, when announcement was made of a gift of \$5000 from Mrs. Thayer and her niece, Miss Chapin, the income of which is to be devoted to the purchase of books. The chief address was by Dr. G. Stanley Hall, president of Clark University, and the exercises were followed by an informal reception at the new building.

*Lynn (Mass.) P. L.* The 36th report of the library for the year ending Dec. 31, 1898, gives the following facts: Added 1459; total 56,017. Issued, home use 108,452; reference use 45,774; periodicals used in reading-room, 75,000. Receipts \$9265.52; expenses \$8946.72.

*Missouri, travelling libraries in.* The Missouri State Federation of Women's Clubs reported 18 travelling libraries in use at its annual meeting in November last. Since then six more libraries have been established. Each library contains 50 volumes, and each may be retained for from four to six months. A uniform fee of \$2.50, to cover cost of transportation, is charged for each library.

*Montana, lib. legislation.* A bill has been introduced into the legislature by State Senator Courtney, authorizing city councils to establish and maintain free public libraries and to levy a tax not to exceed one mill upon the dollar when authorized by a vote to make such levy.

*Nebraska, lib. legislation.* Two library bills were recommended for passage by the legislature on Feb. 8. One provides that school district libraries be established when the electors of a district agree to the proposition; the other provides for an appropriation of \$2000 for the establishment of a travelling library system.

*New Haven (Ct.) F. P. L.* The library *Bulletin* for February gives the following statistics for the work of 1898: Added 5072; total 42,923. Issued, home use 287,261 (fict. 50%; juv. fict. 20%). Total cardholders 15,516.

"About \$2500 was expended on the building in putting in a new floor, and the number of books purchased was therefore smaller than the previous year."

*New York City.* By the will of the late Alexander M. Proudft, of New York, the New York Free Circulating Library and the New York Public Library receive \$10,000 each, to be devoted to the purchase of books on naval history.

*Oklahoma Territorial L.* The administration of the library is affected by the bill introduced into the legislature "fixing the salaries of territorial officers and limiting expenditures." This abolishes the office of territorial librarian and directs the clerk of the supreme court to perform the duties of the former office at a salary of \$600 a year. He is also to receive his fees as clerk of the court, \$400 for expenses, and \$1000 for the purchase of books each year. The passage of the bill is considered probable.

*Oregon, lib. legislation in.* A bill has been introduced into the state legislature by Representative Hill, which provides for the establishment of free libraries in towns of not less than 5000 population. The councils of such municipalities are "authorized and directed" to levy a tax of one-fifth of a mill upon taxable property, to be used for establishing and maintaining a library and to be kept separately as a "free public library fund"; the methods of appointment of a library committee, their

powers and duties, are also outlined. The bill appears to be mandatory and to make the establishment of a library obligatory, as it makes no reference to any expression of a desire for a library on the part of taxpayers, but "authorizes and directs" the levying of the tax.

*Pawtucket (R. I.) F. P. L.* (22d rpt.—year ending Sept. 30, 1898.) Added 928; total 16,542. Circulation 48,372 (fict. 75.9%). New borrowers 1083; total borrowers 6500.

Good progress has been made during the year in work with the school-children and co-operation with teachers. Following in the steps of the Cleveland Public Library a "Book league" was formed in the schools, the children pledging themselves to protect books under their care, which has resulted in "a marked change in the condition of the books returned to the library." The Sunday opening continues successful. The library is a member of the Library Art Club, and the exhibitions it has thus been enabled to give have been thoroughly appreciated.

In the *American Architect and Building News* (*Imperial ed.*) of Feb. 11, 1899, there are given two competitive designs for the new library building.

*Pennsylvania State L.* The report of the retiring state librarian, Dr. W. H. Egle, recently presented to Governor Hastings, states that on Dec. 1, 1898, the library contained 141,316 vols., an increase of 6781 for that year. It is said to be the second state library in size in the Union, though "there are at least 12 states whose annual appropriations to their state libraries exceed the appropriation by Pennsylvania to its state library."

"The successful working of the free public library act of 1895 continues, and the state librarian is highly gratified at what has already been accomplished in Pennsylvania. It is to be regretted, however, in some localities, very little interest is manifested by the directors of public schools." The travelling library system in use in other states, is commended. "Next to the free public library comes the local historical society. The study of local history has become a very prominent feature in educational work, and these historical societies have been very successful in making researches along the line. Local history in our schools is not studied as it ought to be, but we believe that the historical society is doing excellent work in gathering valuable material for the course of study. One of the first things a child ought to be taught is a history of its own home, and the local historical societies are in a measure closely allied in this movement. To assist in making these researches more available to the pupils of our schools, it is suggested that the legislature authorize county commissioners to donate the county historical societies an annual sum of not over \$500, under such restrictions as to prevent any advantage being taken, such societies being established a given length of time, and having accomplished a certain line of work, also having a fixed number of annual paying subscribers."



The need of a newspaper stack-room and of fireproof storage-rooms for valuable documents is referred to.

*St. Joseph (Mo.) P. L.* The library has established a number of "sick-room collections" for the use of invalids. These consist of sets of illustrated publications placed between sheets of cardboard, which are issued to any one asking for them for use in sick-rooms, except, of course, in cases of contagious disease. Collections nos. 1 and 2 comprise odd numbers of the *Ladies' Home Journal*; no. 4, 11 numbers of *Life* and four of *Puck*; no. 5, 13 numbers of *Life* and two of *Puck*; no. 3, eight numbers of *Musical America*. Other collections are being arranged, and contributions for the department are welcomed. Special needs are for illustrated papers, magazines, etc., for children.

*St. Louis (Mo.) P. L.* The report of the librarian for the year 1898, presented Feb. 17, gives the following facts: Added 9806; total 130,000. Issued, home use 687,029; total use of books and periodicals 957,879. New registration 13,293; total registration 50,324.

The use of the library shows a gain of 90,552 over the year preceding. "The growth in the home issue has been entirely through the delivery stations, including the public schools and Sunday-schools."

*St. Paul (Minn.) P. L.* On Feb. 7 the board of aldermen passed, by unanimous vote, an ordinance authorizing the transfer of the old market house property to the library directors, for use, after remodelling, as a library building.

*Scranston (Pa.) P. L.* (8th rpt., 1898.) Added 3796; total 33,739. Issued, home use 133,687 (fict. 74.92 %); lib. use 4724. New cards issued 3665, cancelled 3805, in force 7956. "The total issues of the circulating dept. show a considerable decrease from those of immediately preceding years, first apparent in March." The only innovation in the administration of the library has been a trial of branch reading-rooms and delivery stations, whose existence beyond March, 1899, is contingent upon the granting of appropriations asked for that purpose.

Mr. W: T. Smith, vice-president of the board of trustees, died on March 25, leaving \$1000 to the library; this will be known as the William Tallman Smith fund, and the income it yields will be used for the purchase of books on mining.

*Sunderland, Mass.* At the last annual meeting the town appropriated \$500 as the beginning of a fund for the erection of a new library building. A design for such a library has already been made, and its probable cost is estimated as from \$5000 to \$6000. It is thought the sum necessary will be raised early this year.

*Tennessee State L., Nashville.* The legislative committee appointed to investigate the office of state librarian, submitted its report on Feb. 22. It stated that when Miss Pauline Jones was inaugurated in February, 1897, the

state library contained 34,751 volumes, and during the two years of her incumbency there had been added 2250 volumes. 7000 volumes had been classified and arranged in regard to subjects. A needed improvement made was the installation of four rolling ladders. It was stated that the library was not complete in any department, and that it should contain every book that has ever been produced by Tennesseans.

*University of Michigan L., Ann Arbor.* (Rpt., 1897-98.) Added, general lib. 7110 v., 1061 pm.; total 98,222 v., 16,952 pm. The Felch historical library, numbering 1368 v., has been put in order for use. The recorded circulation for the period was 134,667, and the daily average of readers in the reading-room was 163.

*University of State of N. Y., Albany.* The university has issued the bound volume of the 5th report of the Extension department for 1897, which includes Extension bulletins 23, January, 1898, Study clubs, 1897; 24, April, 1898, Public libraries, 1897; 25, July, 1898, Summer schools, 1897-98; 26, April, 1898, Extension teaching, 1897. Of these reports, those dealing with libraries have been previously noted in these columns.

*Wallingford, Ct. Ladies' L. A.* Plans have been accepted for the new library building given by the late Samuel Simpson as a memorial to his daughter. It will cost about \$23,000, will be two-storied, of brick with stone trimmings, and centrally located on Main street. The architect is Wilson Potter, of New York. Mr. Simpson's bequest was made in 1894 (see L. J., 19: 214).

*Washington, D. C.* On Feb. 25 the Senate passed the bill appropriating \$250,000 for the purchase of a site for the library which Andrew Carnegie has offered to give to the city of Washington. The bill passed provides also that a commission, to consist of the commissioners of the District, the supervising architect of the treasury department, and the president of the board of trustees of the Washington Public Library, be authorized to cause to be erected upon the site purchased a building for the use of the Washington Public Library, with funds to be contributed by Andrew Carnegie, provided that the building be begun within 12 months and completed within two years from the passage of the act.

On Feb. 28 the house bill authorizing the location of the library in Mt. Vernon Square was passed.

*Washington, D. C. L. of Congress.* A bill has been introduced into the House by Representative Brownlow, providing that the Librarian of Congress be authorized and directed to purchase for the Library of Congress the library of the late Frederick Schneider, of Washington, at a price not exceeding \$100,000.

*Wickford (R. I.) P. L.* The new public library, dedicated on Feb. 1, is the result of the bequest of \$10,000 left by the late C. Allen

Chadsey, who gave also the site for the proposed building. The site was extended by the town authorities by the purchase of an adjoining lot, and building plans were drawn by F. J. Sawtell, of Providence. The new library is of wood, two-storied, and 25 x 45 ft. in dimensions. The main entrance opens upon a vestibule, at the right hand of which is the stairway, while upon the left is a door leading into the office of the librarian. Back of these is the main library room. A large room, with bay windows and a fireplace, is devoted to a reading-room. The second story is occupied by two rooms, separated by folding doors, which can be converted into a small hall. The building is lighted by electricity and heated by steam. It is now open to the public for inspection, and although the books are not yet cataloged the reading-room is ready for visitors. The building was begun in April, 1898, and finished in the early autumn. Its equipment, however, has only been recently finished.

*Youngstown, O. Reuben McMillan F. L.* The Reuben McMillan Library was dedicated on the evening of Feb. 16, when elaborate exercises were held before a large audience in Trinity church. The building was open for inspection in the late afternoon and evening of the same day, but the regular work of the library did not begin until Feb. 23. The library, which was established and maintained by the town, is a public memorial of the late Reuben McMillan, who had long been one of the most active workers for the library advancement of Youngstown. The building is a handsome private residence, remodelled for library purposes, and the 14,000 vols. are arranged for free access by the general public, excepting for children. The Browne charging system is used.

#### FOREIGN.

*Aberdeen (Scotland) P. L.* (14th rpt. — year ending Sept. 30, '98.) Added, 3120; total 49,178. Issued, home use 203,568; reference use 14,524. Consultations of open shelves about 134,000. Borrowers' cards issued 8391, of which 775 were extra non-fiction cards.

The lending department was closed six days and the juvenile section 32 days during the year, in connection with the preparation of new catalogs.

*Bibliothèque Nationale, Paris.* It is stated that the printing of the great "Catalogue general" has been abandoned, owing to the great expense involved. When the work was undertaken it was estimated that the catalog would occupy some 80 volumes. The first volume, issued before the close of 1897 — and the only one yet issued — cost about \$8000, so that the cost of the entire catalog, on such a basis, would reach about \$650,000.

*Chester (Wales) P. L.* The system of free access has been abolished in the reference library, owing to the recent disappearance of three books; the system had previously had a six-months' trial in the lending department.

*South Africa, libraries in.* In *The Library Assistant* for February, E. H. Miller, librarian of the Public Library of Bulawayo, gives a short sketch of "Librarianship in South Africa." Although according to government reports there are in Cape Colony over 100 libraries receiving government aid, these show only an aggregate of 351,000 v. and 7354 subscribers. Less than a dozen libraries contain more than 5000 v. each, and these are listed as follows:

Library.	Volumes.	Subscribers.	Gov. Grant.	Subscriptions, etc.	Salaries.
1 Cape Town,.....	60,199	672	1250	3145	1264
2 Port Elizabeth.....	31,470	505	500	1057	584
3 Kimberley.....	20,668	307	350	1555	604
4 Grahamstown.....	14,864	319	300	509	215
5 King Williamstown.....	14,549	256	300	454	221
6 Graft Reinet.....	7,309	161	242	164	120
7 Queenstown.....	7,134	179	200	233	89
8 East London.....	6,458	202	200	257	100
9 Cradock.....	5,595	165	175	186	86
10 Beaconsfield.....	3,066	46	98	307	149
11 Bulawayo*.....	2,500	400	200	793	360

\* Bulawayo is in Rhodesia, not in Cape Colony.

There are less than 400,000 Europeans in the area in which the libraries are situated. "The South African Library, Cape Town, is undoubtedly the finest in South Africa; the average number of volumes issued exceeds 3500 per month, with a daily attendance of 320. There are also two or three very fine libraries in Natal, Orange Free State, and the Transvaal, as well as Rhodesia." A new building is in progress for the library at Durban. Bulawayo has a library building, erected at a cost of £6500, and a public library is being formed at Salisbury.

*Tokio, Japan.* H. Mamizu, of Tokio, is at present absent in the United States and Canada on a three months' trip for library inspection, as a delegate from the Japanese government. His mission is to obtain information for the better development of the plans for the great national library building that is to be erected in Tokio. A sum of \$300,000 has already been appropriated by the Japanese government for this building.

#### Practical Notes.

"COMBINING" A CATALOG. Mr. W. F. Stevens, of the Y. M. C. A. Railroad Library, New York, sends an example of the method adopted at that library for combining three catalogs into "copy" for one. The printed bulletins which are to be revised and enlarged into one catalog are cut up and single columns are pasted in the centre of large sheets of manila paper. Manuscript additions on index slips are pasted alphabetically on either side with a supplementary printed list, and the added entries are then "led in" to the main printed list.





JOHN RUSSELL YOUNG

*Late Librarian of Congress*

From the painting by Vonnoh for Union League Club, Philadelphia, 1895

## Librarians.

**BARROWS.** The nomination of Samuel June Barrows to be Librarian of Congress, made by the President on Feb. 15, failed of confirmation by the Senate on March 4. The appointment was formally tendered to Mr. Barrows by the President again, after the Senate had adjourned, but Mr. Barrows declined it, in view of the failure of favorable action on the part of the Senate, in a dignified and appropriate letter.

**BOSTWICK,** Arthur E., for four years chief librarian of the New York Free Circulating Library, was on March 8 elected librarian of the Brooklyn (N. Y.) Public Library. Mr. Bostwick's work in the New York library, where he succeeded Miss E. M. Coe, has brought him to the front in library ranks, and his appointment to this new post should mean the reorganization and development along effective lines of the library that for the last few years has been struggling for existence in Brooklyn. Mr. Bostwick is a graduate of Yale, of the class of '81. After graduation he took a two-years' medical course, and received the degree of Ph.D. in 1883. He acted as substitute instructor for a year in the university and then came to New York, where he was engaged in editing works of reference and general literary work. He was one of the associate editors of the "Standard dictionary," and an assistant editor of the *Forum*. During his administration of the New York Free Circulating Library, its activities have greatly increased, the important branch system has been broadened and strengthened and Sunday opening and organized school work have been developed.

**BUCKNAM,** Miss Edith P., graduate of the Pratt Institute Library School, class of '96, has been appointed cataloger at the University of Pennsylvania.

**CARR,** Miss Gertrude, graduate of Pratt Institute Library School, class of '96, has been appointed cataloger at the University of Pennsylvania.

**COOMBS,** Frank L., state librarian of California, has been appointed to the office of United States District Attorney, so that a successor to the state librarianship will shortly be named. The appointing power, by the new library law just passed, is vested in the governor, instead of in the trustees as heretofore.

**GARNETT,** Dr. Richard, will retire from the post of Keeper of Printed Books in the British Museum on March 20. His connection with the museum has extended over 48 years, and his retirement would take place, under civil service regulations, about a year hence; it has been anticipated owing to domestic circumstances. In the London *Academy* of Feb. 18 Dr. Garnett is the subject of a short sketch and interview, with a portrait. During his many years' service in the British Museum his work has lain in the department of which he is now the head, and which he entered when a lad of 16.

**JONES,** Miss Mary L., has resigned her position in Iowa State University, and has been appointed assistant librarian of the Los Angeles (Cal.) Public Library, where she will have direct charge of the library training class.

**LEMCKE,** Mrs. Adelgitha Blackwell, wife of Ernst Lemcke, of Lemcke & Buechner, New York City, died at her residence in Orange, N. J., on Feb. 13, 1899. Mrs. Lemcke had been a member of the American Library Association since 1894, and, with her husband, had attended every annual conference of the association since that date. Her ready wit, unflinching humor, and cordial kindness made her always a delightful companion, and her many friends in the library world will long miss her cheerful presence.

**PUTNAM,** Herbert, librarian of the Boston Public Library, was on March 13 nominated by the President as Librarian of Congress, succeeding the late John Russell Young. The nomination is, in effect, a recess appointment, subject to confirmation by the Senate when Congress assembles in December, but there is little question of favorable action at that time. Mr. Putnam's library record is familiar to all acquainted with the library history of the day, and his appointment is the best of auguries for the development of a truly national library. At the time of his appointment to the headship of the Boston Public Library in February, 1895, the facts of Mr. Putnam's library career were noted in these columns (L. J., 20:66). Since then he has won his spurs as one of the foremost executives in the profession, and the development of the great Public Library of Boston, along the most progressive lines and in the face of many obstacles, is a monument to his executive force, his constructive skill, and his practical energy. As president of the American Library Association for part of the term 1897-1898 he filled a difficult office with unflinching tact and dignity, and in all his relations with the A. L. A. his clear judgment and broad sympathies have been of direct service in the advancement of the library cause.

**TITCOMB,** Miss Mary L., has resigned her position as librarian of the Rutland, Vt., Free Library, and has undertaken the organization and cataloging of the Goodrich Memorial Library, of Newport, Vt., lately established by the gift of \$61,000 from Daniel M. Goodrich, formerly of Newport. Miss Titcomb has made an admirable record in her 12 years' service in the Rutland library, where she has been active in the work of the state commission and the state association, having long served as secretary of both these bodies; and the best wishes of her former associates go with her in the new field she has entered.

**TYLER,** Arthur W., has recently returned from an extended European tour of over nine months' duration. His itinerary included visits to the libraries at Munich, Berlin, Mainz, Milan, Florence, and Rome. In the magnificent hall of the Vatican Library, Mr. Tyler states, not a single reader or student was to be seen at the time of his visit.

### Cataloging and Classification.

ANNUAL American catalogue, 1898; being the full titles, with descriptive notes, of all books recorded in *The Publishers' Weekly*, 1898, with author, title, and subject index, publishers' annual lists, and directory of publishers, [Fourth supplement to the American Catalogue, 1890-95.] N. Y., Office of *The Publishers' Weekly* 1899. c. 16-221 98 p. O. hf. leath, \$3.50.

APPRENTICES' L., Philadelphia. Finding list. Philadelphia, 1898. 8+141 p. Q.

A D. C. classed list for all classes except biography and fiction, which are listed separately without class numbers. The subdivisions of the main classes, while modelled on those of the D. C., are modified according to the number and nature of the titles to be recorded; much common sense has been shown in their selection, and the use of the finding list is thus simplified. A good feature is the massing of travel, description, and history under the name of the place treated of; where many entries are thus brought together, History forms one subhead, Travel and description the other; so that the necessity for consulting the two parts of the list for material on a special place or country is removed. The index to subjects gives page references only, so that the eye must glance down one or both columns before finding the entry sought.

THE BOSTON P. L. *Bulletin* for February lists a collection of works in the Polish language recently added, and contains a special list on "Imperialism and territorial expansion." The geographical material in the library is also reviewed in a short descriptive summary.

CINCINNATI (O.) P. L. *Bulletin* of books added during the year 1898. Cincinnati, 1899. 4+82 p. Q. 10 c.

MILKAU, Fritz. *Centralkataloge und Titeldrucke: Geschichtliche Erörterungen und praktische Vorschläge im Hinblick auf die Herstellung eines Gesamtkataloge; der Preussischen wissenschaftlichen Bibliotheken; mit 35 tafeln in Zinkätzung und 1 Tabelle.* Leipzig, O. Harrassowitz, 1898. 152 p.

Dr. Milkau's pamphlet was reviewed at length by Hans Schnorr von Carolsfeld in the *Centralblatt* for December, 1898. In the first part of his treatise on the feasibility of a universal catalog of scientific literature Dr. Milkau treats of the history of various catalogs already undertaken and deducts rules from the many plans and failures which may work practically in the new undertaking. The second part gives "Practical propositions," emphasizing the point that the manuscript of the catalog must be ready before any printing is undertaken. The instructions given for the preparing of this manuscript, Herr von Carolsfeld thinks op-

timistically short, the general plan being to accept a revision of the instructions and methods of Dziatzko. The chief difficulty seems to be in the hindrance to getting at the material that will accumulate in the various libraries during the preparation of manuscript. The most feasible idea seems to be to record on cards the accessions to the Royal Library at Berlin and send them to each library for indication of what is to be on their special shelves. Herr von Carolsfeld, however, thinks it would be wiser to ask advice from librarians throughout Germany, as the catalog proposed would really be the foundation of a catalog for the whole German Empire. In regard to printing methods, Dr. Milkau believes it necessary to fix a date and include no material after printing has once begun. Other plans are to print on one side of the page and make additions in writing as the work proceeds. The preparation of the catalog in card form only is also considered, but that is not thought to have the element of durability that such a great undertaking should possess.

THE OSTERHOUT F. L. (*Wilkes-Barre, Pa.*) *Newsletter* for February contains a good "List of books on art and architecture for use in the schools"; the instalment of "Finger-posts to the reference library" covers sociology and law.

THE SALEM (Mass.) P. L. *Bulletin* for February contains a special reading list on "Government of colonies and dependencies."

THE SAN FRANCISCO MECHANICS' INSTITUTE L. *Bulletin* for February contains a short reference list on the Nicaragua canal.

SWEDISH DISSERTATIONS. Mr. A. G. S. Josephson writes correcting the record of his "Avhandlingar ock program utgivna vid Svenska ock Finska akademier ock skolor," as given in the January issue of L. J. (p. 41). He says: "This bibliography does not treat of 'Swedish periodicals,' but of university theses and papers in programs published by universities and schools. Further: the bibliography covers the years 1855 to 1890, and part I, has imprint 1891-1893, part II, 1897, and the title-page to the whole work, through an error at the printing-office, 1892-1897. The first number is mentioned in L. J., vol. 18, p. 522, with a notice from the *Athenaeum*."

THE UTICA (N. Y.) PUBLIC SCHOOLS have issued a "Course for home reading" for 1899 (16 p. T.), compiled by Miss Underhill, of the Utica Public Library, which is to form part of the school-work during the year. The course is graded, each grade being subdivided to cover books of information, and stories and fairy tales or fiction. The purpose of the course is to "direct the reading of the pupils into right channels and to cultivate the habit of reading only good literature."

UNIVERSITY OF THE STATE OF N. Y. State Library bulletin, Legislation no. 10: Legislation by states in 1898, ninth annual comparative summary and index. Albany, 1899. p. 742-910. O. 25 c.

## CHANGED TITLES.

"The lady of Castell March," by Owen Rhoscomyl, issued in this country by Doubleday & McClure Co., is published in England as "The shrouded face," by C. Arthur Pearson, London.

## FULL NAMES.

THE EVOLUTION OF "FULL NAMES." The entry of "Ian Maclaren's" full name in various catalogs as "John Maclaren Watson" was not long since referred to the editor of the *Bookman* for confirmation, and the reply was that "John Watson is correct." Concerning this, Mr. W. I. Fletcher comments as follows: "I wish we might know more definitely whether Maclaren ever was a part of his name. Prof. Burton would now say Richard Burton 'is correct,' but he was christened (and graduated from Trin. Coll. '83 and Ph.D. Johns Hopkins '88 as) Richard Eugene. So Dr. Van Dyke wrote me (in answer to a question as to *van* or *Van*, and approving *van*) 'I am, Yours sincerely, Henry van Dyke.' Yet in the Princeton catalog he is entered as Henry Jackson — so that point is settled. But does that make it right to call him that now? If so, you must say Burton, Richard Eugene, and (perhaps?) Watson, John Maclaren."

Rhees, William Jones, NOT William W: John Rhees, as given in the British Museum catalog and other places. — N. E. B.

The following are supplied by Harvard College Library:

Bigelow, Edwin V: (A narrative history of the town of Cohasset, Mass.);

Brownson, H: Francis (Orestes A. Brownson's early life);

Folwell, Amory Prescott (Sewerage);

Ford, Andrew Elmer (The story of the Fifteenth regiment Massachusetts volunteer infantry in the civil war);

Heming, Harry Hooper (The Catholic Church in Wisconsin);

Ives, F: Eugene (Photography in the colors of nature);

Luce, W: Blake (Kites and experiments in aerial photography);

Moulton, Frank Prescott (Preparatory Latin composition);

Pierce, Robert Morris (Problems of number and measure);

Raphael, Raphael Bear (The Jewish question);

Reuss, Francis X: (Biographical cyclopædia of the Catholic hierarchy of the United States); Soderholtz, Eric Ellis (Colonial architecture and furniture);

Tufts, J: Wheeler (Technic and notation as applied to the pianoforte);

Wallis, Frank Edwin (Old colonial architecture and furniture);

Watson, T: E: (The story of France).

The following are from John Crerar Library:

Beardsley, Robert Forbes [Winslow] (Course of study. Manual training department of the elementary public schools, Chicago);

Christy, Jesse Eastman (Lessons in Munson phonography);

Heistand, H: Olcott Sheldon (The territory of Alaska);

Musick, J: Roy (Hawaii);

Partridge, Newton Augustus (Suggestions on the Chicago street-railway problem);

Pratt, Mason Delano, and Alden, C: Ames (Street-railway roadbed);

Prentice, Ezra Parmelee, and Egan, J: Garret (The commerce clause of the federal constitution).

## Bibliography.

ARCHÆOLOGY. The *American Journal of Archaeology*, v. 2, no. 5 (Sept. — Oct., 1898), recently issued, contains an excellent "Bibliography of current archæological literature" (Jan. — June, 1898), by Prof. Harold N. Fowler, of Cleveland, O.

BANKING. Bryan, Alfred Cookman. History of state banking in Maryland. Baltimore, The Johns Hopkins Press, 1899. 3-144 p. O. (Johns Hopkins University studies, ser. 17, nos. 1, 2, 3.) pap. \$1.

Contains a bibliography of state banking.

"CARROLL, Lewis." Collingwood, S. D. Life and letters of Lewis Carroll. N. Y. Century Co., 1899. 20 + 448 p. pors. il. O. \$2.50.

Contains a bibliography of "Lewis Carroll's" writings, p. 431 — 443.

CHINA. Krausse, Alexis. China in decay: a handbook to the far-eastern question. London, Chapman & Hall, 1898. 12 + 400 p. 8°. Contains a 9-page bibliography.

EDUCATION. Hazlitt, W. Carew. Farther contributions toward a history of earlier education in Great Britain. (*In The Antiquary*, February, 1899. 35:43 — 49.)

Continued from the January number. In this number are begun the notices of particular schools.

ENGLISH ROMANTICISM. Beers, H: A. A history of English romanticism in the 18th century. N. Y., Henry Holt & Co., 1899. 7 + 455 p. \$2.

Contains a 10-page bibliography.

FINNS. Abercromby, John. The pre- and proto-historic Finns, both eastern and western; with the magic songs of the West Finns. London, Nutt, 1898. 2 v., 24 + 363; 13 + 400 p. 12°. (The Grimm lib.)

Contains (vol. 1) an 8-page list of "full titles of books consulted and referred to."

FLAMINI, Francesco. La littérature italienne de 1868 - 1898. (Congrès bibliographique international tenu à Paris du 13 au 16 avril, 1898.) Paris, 1898. 19 p. 8°.

The bibliographical review of Italian literary history for 30 years, presented by Professor Flaminio, of the University of Padua, at the third international congress of the Société Bibliographique, held at Paris last year, and issued as a "separate" from the forthcoming volume of transactions of that conference.

INTEROCEANIC COMMUNICATION. Bibliography of United States public documents relating to interoceanic communication across Nicaragua, Isthmus of Panama, Isthmus of Tehuantepec, etc.; prepared in the office of Superintendent of Documents. Washington, Gov. Print. Office, 1899. 30 p. O.

Arranged chronologically, from 1837 to 1899, and followed by a full index; valuable and timely.

LANCASHIRE AND CHESHIRE. Swann, J: Hibbert. Bibliography of Lancashire and Cheshire antiquities and biography, 1897, and subject-index to bibliography; reprinted from transactions of Lancashire and Cheshire Antiquarian Society, v. 5. Manchester, Richard Gill, 1898. 15 p. 8°.

MONT BLANC. Matthews, C: E. The annals of Mont Blanc: a monograph; with a chapter on the geology of the mountain. London, Unwin, 1898. 24 + 368 p. 8°.

Includes a bibliography (p. 295 - 320) giving 303 references to books, magazine articles, etc., dealing with Mont Blanc.

SPAIN. Hume, M. A. S. Spain, its greatness and decay, 1479 - 1788; with an introd. by E: Armstrong. Cambridge [Eng.], University Press, 1898. 10 + 460 p. 8°. (Cambridge hist. ser.)

Includes bibliography, p. 412 - 424.

ZOROASTER. Jackson, A. V. W. Zoroaster, the prophet of ancient Iran. N. Y., Macmillan, 1899. 23 + 314 p. pl. maps, 8°. \$3. Contains a five-page bibliography.

#### INDEXES.

CHEMICAL SOCIETY [of London]. Collective index of the transactions, proceedings, and abstracts of the Chemical Society, 1883 - 1892; comp. by Margaret D. Dongal. London, Gurney & Jackson [1898]. 15 + 471 + 1147 p. 8°.

FLETCHER, W: I., and Bowker, R: R. The annual literary index, 1898; including periodicals, American and English; essays, book-chapters, etc., with author-index, bibliographies, necrology, and index to dates of

principal events; ed., with the co-operation of members of the American Library Association and of the LIBRARY JOURNAL staff. N. Y., Office of *The Publishers' Weekly*. 1899. 6 + 284 p. O. \$3.50.

Contains also references for the 30 volumes of Warner's "Library of the world's best literature," issued 1896-98.

#### Anonymous and Pseudonyms.

The following are taken from the "Catalogue of title entries of books" issued from the office of the Register of Copyrights, Library of Congress:

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Worcester Polytechnic Institute, Worcester, Mass. *Nature*, Jan. 6, 13, 1898.

Library Journal Office, 59 Duane St., N. Y. City. *Library Journal*, April, June, Aug., Nov., and Dec., v. 19, 1894.

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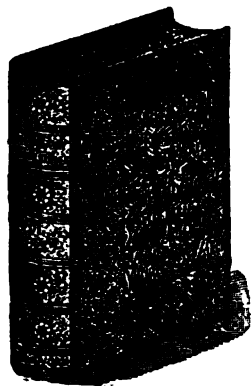
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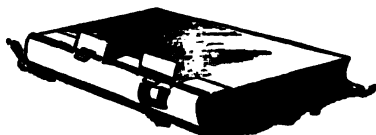
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APRIL, 1899.

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# THE LIBRARY JOURNAL

VOL. 24.

APRIL, 1899.

No. 4

Now that the announcements and preliminary program of the Atlanta conference are fairly before members of the A. L. A., there can be little need to urge again the importance and benefit of attendance to all concerned in library affairs—librarians, assistants, and trustees. Aside from the inspiration and stimulus to better work that comes simply from association with others intent upon the same aims, the general program, as outlined, is centred upon three topics—library extension, co-operation, and open shelves—that appeal to almost all library workers, while the various section meetings should meet the specialized needs that cannot have adequate consideration on a general program. The program makes a departure from those of preceding years in limiting sessions to two hours and a half, thus recognizing the desire for more time between sessions, which has found expression at most recent conferences. Whether this fair promise will be kept is another matter—for A. L. A. programs, when once uncorked, are prone to reach such dimensions that, like the Genius in the Arabian Nights, there is no keeping them within the original bottle. But we may at least cherish the hope of its fulfilment. Of the pleasures of the journey and of the delightful social features of the conference week it is hardly necessary to speak. For travellers from East and West routes have been planned with a special view to the interest and comfort of the journey; the warm welcome that the Atlanta hosts have assured promises to make the Atlanta week an object lesson in Southern hospitality, and the post-conference trip will take the travellers through a part of the most beautiful region of the South and over ground of deep historic interest. Certainly a realization of all the conference means in pleasure and refreshment and in practical help to all who have to do with libraries, should make clear to all having library authority the importance of having their own library represented at this general library gathering.

It is to be regretted that owing to the resignation of Mr. Crunden from the chairmanship of the committee on constitutional revision, enforced by his overwork and ill health, the committee has not been able to present in an earlier number of the LIBRARY JOURNAL, as originally planned, a draft of a revised constitution for discussion. It has been impracticable, owing to the geographical distribution of the membership, to hold a meeting of the committee, and the draft as arranged by correspondence must be understood to be in the line of suggestion quite as much as of recommendation. The changes proposed are generally in the direction suggested at recent conferences or by other informal expression on the part of members, covering the succession to the presidency, payment to a secretary, who by re-election may be a permanent officer, the re-organization of the council into an effective and *quasi* representative body which may pass upon decisions of the association, the recognition of sections and of affiliated organizations, and provisions as to meetings which, while keeping the general meetings the chief feature of the annual conference, safeguard the association against the hasty action of a large, new, and haphazard attendance. This subject of constitutional revision is one of the most important that will come before the Atlanta conference, and it is to be hoped that members will approach the subject, after careful study of the draft, with well-digested suggestions for any improvements and with recognition of the difficulties inherent in any attempt to reorganize such a body as the American Library Association on a plan which shall include freely all those interested in library work and yet furnish proper safeguards against other than well-considered action.

ONE of the most gratifying features in connection with the Atlanta conference is its timeliness in relation with the munificent gift to Atlanta made by Mr. Carnegie and the consequent library awakening in the city, the influ-

ence of which will be felt elsewhere in the South. The arrangements for the acceptance of Mr. Carnegie's offer and for the transfer of the Young Men's Library to city control have been carried through with admirable promptness and decision, and without descending to that political haggling which too often delays and mars such undertakings. The provisions of the transfer, noted elsewhere, show a broad-minded and generous spirit on the part of the library authorities, and a realization on the part of the city of the possibilities of its new institution, and it is not too much to hope that the Carnegie Library of Atlanta may be a cornerstone in the free library development of the South.

THE Brooklyn Public Library, which has become an accomplished fact almost solely through the zeal and energy of Mrs. Mary E. Craigie, who was its originator and who has been its directing head up to Mr. Bostwick's appointment, has had a Minerva-like history in coming full armored with an appropriation of \$40,000 into the library world. Mrs. Craigie, in speaking for the library, takes exception to our statement that the library has been struggling for existence for the past few years and speaks of it as in existence for only one year. Both statements are right, for while the Brooklyn Public Library began civic existence as such only in 1898, its organization dates from January, 1897, when a board of directors was appointed, and so long ago as 1892 a bill authorizing a Brooklyn Public Library was passed. Its history has been exceptional, in view of the fact that the question was in no way submitted to the people of Brooklyn, that the existing libraries were not considered, and that a large appropriation for the year has been obtained before the library has been developed to an extent calling for such an appropriation. There was and is question whether it would not have been better to organize a final library system for Brooklyn out of the existing libraries, on lines parallel with the great accomplishment in New York, modified to meet Brooklyn conditions. The Brooklyn Library, formerly the Brooklyn Mercantile, formed an excellent basis for such an endeavor, and any general scheme for Brooklyn would of course have recognized and left independent place for the individual work of the great library on the Pratt foundation. Owing to Mrs. Craigie's energy, whether well-directed or misdirected, library develop-

ment in Brooklyn has taken a somewhat different direction, and with the accession of a librarian who has made his mark in the New York Free Circulating Library work and the liberal appropriation secured, great things should be expected from the Brooklyn Public Library. Whatever criticism there may be of its small beginnings and early methods in the Brooklyn Public Library Association, it must be admitted that this early work has been resultful in large degree.

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### Communications.

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#### SCOTT'S EDITION OF SWIFT.

WILL librarians please look at their sets of Scott's second edition of Swift's works, Edin., 1824, and report to the next LIBRARY JOURNAL whether vol. 6 contains the leaf paged 347-8, or whether that leaf is missing? Does any one know of any peculiarity in that edition and the cause of it? C. A. F.

RADCLIFFE COLLEGE LIBRARY, }  
Cambridge, Mass. }

#### THE BROOKLYN PUBLIC LIBRARY.

THE error you mention in the report of the number of borrowers of the Brooklyn Public Library must have occurred in the printing of the newspaper copy. It was not in the original report.

I would also call your attention to the misstatement in the article commenting on Mr. Bostwick's appointment to the Brooklyn Public Library, where you say the library "has been struggling for existence for the last few years." Our library has only been in existence one year, and during that year we have established two branches and have secured an appropriation from the city of \$40,000 for our next year's work, and have also sites approved and the plans all perfected for the opening of three more branches, which but for the delay of the officials in passing on the leases would have been opened in January. I doubt if any library, new or old, can show a better record than that for one year on the small appropriation of \$10,000. Our work has been so quietly carried on that I doubt if many outside of our own locality appreciate the almost phenomenal work we have done; we have had to make sentiment, as is always true in a new undertaking, and also to begin operations just at the time of consolidation, when a new administration and a new charter brought such general confusion that many older institutions depending upon municipal favor were retarded in their work. That we have received public recognition to the extent of gaining our full appropriation and been able to provide for five branches, and a new position commanding a salary of \$4000 per annum, is not a bad record for any library.

MARY E. CRAIGIE, *Director*.

PUBLIC LIBRARY, }  
Brooklyn, N.Y. }

## THE PUBLIC LIBRARY AS AN AID IN THE SCHOOL-ROOM.\*

BY MARGARET DRUAR, *Teacher, Public School No. 51, Buffalo, N. Y.*

IF we, as teachers, expect books to influence pupils for their good when they leave school, surely we ought to influence them in their early years to acquire a taste for good reading.

Such a taste is not a gift of nature, usually, so much as a product of cultivation. Of course, a wide difference exists in children in their natural inclination for reading, but even in those naturally least inclined a taste for good reading may be developed by training.

In early childhood a mother's lullabies should attune a child's ear to melody and rhythm. Rhythm is further developed by the "Mother Goose" melodies and other children's ditties. If in these early years a child has suitable stories frequently read to him, or told to him, he will want to read them himself when able.

Learning stories or verses by heart, before the child is of school age, is of great benefit, for the child will thus feel the power to do something. A child accustomed to hear and repeat such stories soon becomes an originator. He will tell a story of his own, on seeing a new picture, and thus begins the best original language work spontaneously. There is no need of questioning the child, for he will tell a complete story of his own, patterned after the stories which he knows.

After "Mother Goose," and before the school age is reached, should come the world-famous fairy stories and legends. No little child should be without this brightening influence. To be sure, he will never be too old to appreciate fairy tales; but when older, he has not that vivid child's imagination to take the keenest enjoyment from them, and he will besides have other things to read. In our primary grades, library books have led parents to take an interest in child study. There are numbers of little children unable to read in our school who regularly draw books. They look at the pictures, their parents read stories to them. Parents in this way are brought more in touch with child life. Teachers have seen an increased interest shown in children and in their way of looking at things, which they thought brought about to some extent by the library books.

Indications also show that parents can naturally and easily be led to the topic of child study. And here I would suggest that books of help to parents in the study of child life and training be put in primary grades for parents' use, a practice that has, I believe, been followed in some cities.

Last year, although at least 20 children on an average from each of the higher grades had library cards, and began drawing books from the library, not more than three or four out of the 20 continued the practice. The reason for this dropping off may be accounted for in several ways. The children lived at a great distance from the library, and some even at a great distance from the distributing station. At this station they cannot select books, but must order by slip. This system does not appeal to children (nor to their elders). A child prefers to handle books and select from them personally.

With from 50 to 80 books in the school-room, the child's choice is judiciously limited to books that will be understood, that will be helpful in his work, and will furnish a beginning in literature. This was the intention of the public library when it placed books in the schools. To a great extent the aim has been realized. But in nearly every grade a great number of the books were found beyond the pupils' comprehension. Thus the number of available books was rather limited, and until this was corrected the number of books drawn was correspondingly small.

Children will not read books too old for them. Teachers often find books that are highly interesting left unread through ignorance. As an instance, "The story of the Greeks" was returned early in the library season by one small boy, who had not read it. I considered that reading needed some encouragement, so I selected from this book the story of the Spartan boy and the hidden fox, to which the class listened with rapt attention. The demand for that book has not yet ceased. Another book, "My Apingi kingdom," had such a formidable title that no one wished to draw it. Three selections, telling of the strange customs of this region, were read by different pupils in one reading lesson, as supplementary work, and since then it has

\*Part of a paper read before the Women Teachers' Association of Buffalo, Feb. 21, 1899, and before the Library Club of Buffalo, March 16, 1899.

been in steady demand, and other books in the series are called for.

Not many of the books in my own school-room are geography helps, but there are several Henty books; one of the most helpful in geography being "By right of conquest," a story of Mexico. Coffin's "Life of Lincoln" and Eggleston's "Household history of the United States" afforded suitable selections for reading in celebrating Lincoln's birthday. The "History of the United States" also afforded material in interesting form on the customs of the Puritans and the observance of Thanksgiving day. Extracts from Scudder's "Life of Washington," "Boys of Greenway Court," Sewell's "Virginia cavalier," and "American war ballads," help the teacher in her program for Washington's birthday. More books useful for such occasions would be gladly welcomed. Geography pictures mounted on cards are sent to our schools and have proved of great help in creating interest. In the grammar grades the books of greatest value in school-work are those on geographical topics, journeys, histories, and biographies. Even the children of the third and fourth year prefer books on such topics. The books most drawn in those grades are stories similar to Andrews' "Seven little sisters" and Schwatka's "Children of the cold."

In the primary grades especially the teachers have found the books an aid in discipline. The picture-books are things of joy, and give children never-ending pleasure. Those who can read a little plod along through fairy-tales as well. The same is true in grammar grades, but the difference in discipline is not so marked. The library book has been the means of arousing some of the more indolent children, who formerly did not reach their rooms until the very last moment. Now they hasten to their seats to get a chance to read before the school session.

In the primary grades the influence of the library on the language-work is most marked. As I have said, children learn to tell stories from the picture-books. Where work of this kind has been done previously, under parental guidance, the results are most marked. But all the pupils show it, and parents are becom-

ing more interested. In the higher grades it has been found by inquiry that the pupils frequently read aloud at home to the members of their family. From the social point of view this tends to strengthen the family tie. I speak from the teacher's standpoint when I say that oral expression is gained by reading aloud, which can be gained in no other way. An improved vocabulary ought also to be gained by this extra reading.

Many children who have not been in the habit of reading have begun to show a love for books, and in several cases this has extended to their branches of study. Several girls who were in the habit of reading books of the Mary J. Holmes type now read the best books in our selection. These girls did not need to be encouraged to read *more*. The question of reading for them was one of quality, not quantity; not how much, but how good. Our teachers are, moreover, greatly surprised at the demand for poetry. Children who acknowledge their inability to comprehend it, still claim that they like to read it. These facts seem to indicate that the standard of children's reading is being raised.

The following statistics show the amount of reading done. In the third and fourth grades the books given out for reading numbered 802 in three months; an average of 267 per month, and 54 per class. One third-grade class averages 76 books per month. In the grammar grades of our school there were drawn in three months 1236 books; an average of 412 per month, and 59 per room. One grade raised this average to 87 books per month.

In concluding, I would repeat that the benefits of the library in the school-room are felt in the language-work, reading and geography work; that the library can be a blessing for special day observances, and in discipline among the little ones; that the increase in reading produces a stimulation in thought and an enlarged vocabulary; and finally, that it raises the standard of the child's reading. Finding the library such an aid, the schools are coming to look to it more and more to assist in training youth. And we reciprocate by training children to use the library.

## THE HOME AND THE LIBRARY.\*

BY DR. ELIZABETH B. THELBERG, *Vassar College.*

IN approaching the question of the library's help to the home, I must see the matter from the home's side. Leaving out of consideration all the many and admirable devices of the librarian to that end, and all the home missionary work among the children of the non-reading classes, the plans for travelling libraries, the regents' courses, etc., etc., which bid fair to be of a value inestimable to our civilization, let me consider the narrower and yet the wide question of what the ordinary American home can do to make its connection with the public library closer and more valuable.

I once heard some one say that it was a question with him which was of more benefit to a child, to have a college education, or to have been in the habit of seeing its mother read. We must presuppose at least one reader in this home. One at least—father, mother, elder sister, or maiden aunt—who *loves* to read and truly cares for books, is not satisfied even with "all the magazines" and the ever-present newspaper, but wants, and will have, books—and many of them.

In the present stage of American civilization women do certainly constitute our leisure class. Let us suppose, then, that it is the mother who has and who uses this leisure for the feeding and clothing of her own mind and the minds of her family. And let me premise that large leisure is not necessary. Think how books have been written. Think of that corner of a kitchen table upon which most of "Uncle Tom's cabin" was given to the world. What we need, then, is not so much *time* as the eager mind. The mind which in itself a kingdom is, and which peoples its kingdom with the great of this earth and with the great of the creative imagination. Every home made by such a mind will have its own books, but of necessity, save in the rarest instances, most insufficient for its needs. How can the reader and director most wisely plan the extension of the home bounds? How can she most fully utilize the granaries within such walls as these for the feeding of her flock?

All through the school year a wise mother

will make her own private reading bear, in part at least, upon the line of her children's studies. That is a subject by itself worthy of much thought and capable of great development.

When the children are studying any historical epoch or any geographical area let the mother draw upon the resources of the public library as extensively as possible along those lines. (I wish it were possible for her to obtain the loan of good maps.) The mere turning of the leaves and the sight of the pictures and reproductions in such books as Justin Winsor's "Narrative and critical history of America," the illustrated edition of Green's "Short history of the English people," Eugene Schuyler's "Life of Peter the Great," Carlyle's *Frederick or Cromwell*, is of value to the child to whom the pages of its own life and the life of this planet are just opening.

In the child's classical and modern language studies, in all the wide field of natural science, let the mother follow as closely as may be, or better still, go just before.

But aside from school, and the beaten path, let the home reader plan delightful mental surprises or prolonged excursions for the long days of the summer vacation, for the winter evenings by the fire. Let her avail herself, if she needs to do so, of courses for study, furnished so abundantly for so many—but the chief charm lies in spontaneity, in following one's own will and bent—in browsing among the stacks until the right books seem to fall into one's hand.

Let this family of whom we are supposing spend one summer, for instance, in the Arctic. Let them set sail with the older men, any or all—Baffin, and Parry, and Franklin—and bring out dear Dr. Kane once more, not forgetting his biography, and if you can get it, his letters to Margaret Fox, one of the rapping sisters of Rochester. Let them have their hearts stirred with pity and with admiration, and thrilled with the rescue after the "Three years of Arctic service." Let them sail with Nordskjöld in the *Vega*, and see if they will find the origin of Kipling's white seal story. Then go from east to west with unhappy De Long in the *Jeannette*, and with Melville in the search over the frozen delta. Then with the fortunate

\* Read before New York Library Association, Poughkeepsie, N. Y., Feb. 15, 1899.

*From* come through the ice, and blessing Harmsworth and Jackson for the fortunate meeting at Cape Flora, will not this family flight create and maintain a wide and keen interest in Peary and in Wellman, and give the younger members a background for a truly intelligent interest in the Arctic and its great unanswered problems?

That is a good, cool summer's trip, and just here let me make a plea for a more general extension of time on summer books. Who that has seen the trash in the hands of presumably intelligent people at seaside and mountain places does not deprecate the loss of time and the dissipation of mind? There are the people in their vacation time and spirit, while *here* are the books they ought to want and often do want to be reading, and they, in default of what they want, read cheap novels and magazines only. What we need is to effect a conjunction of time and place and the book. One should as soon think of going away without one's shoes as without one's books for the summer, and if the library will allow us a larger number of books at a time for those weeks, and an extension of time upon them, it will be furthering its own purposes very materially.

There are many hints that come to mind for other journeys like that among the Arctic wildernesses. Take Africa—that is rather extensive, but begin with South Africa. Every one has read "The story of an African farm." Go from it to Miss Schreiner's "Problems of South Africa," then back to the old volumes of Moffatt and Livingstone (and the interest and wisdom of David Livingstone's early writings never can grow old). Read Poultney Bigelow's "White man's Africa" for its point of view and for its photographs; Stanley's last little book of newspaper articles for the point of view only—and even with this limited background the family will be to some degree prepared for Bryce's "South Africa," with its fine and most helpful maps.

Go to India with Kipling as we all have gone; go with Mrs. Steele "On the face of the waters"—but do not, in spite of the latter-day critics, forget Macaulay; and make the boy who hates poetry read Browning's "Clive" to you—and, best of all, read the two last most authoritative and most delightful volumes upon India, Lord Roberts' "Forty-one years."

A transition to Augustus Hare's story of "Two beautiful lives" is none the less charming because not strictly logical—and this sug-

gests the whole field of biography, apart from adventure and travel, than which from Plutarch to Frances Power Cobbe's story of her seventy happy years, and the new Tennyson, life offers few choicer opportunities for the true zest of enjoyment. Why concern ourselves so closely with the dull gossip of a town when we may listen to Thomas Carlyle's own voice and live with Jane Welch, his wife; when Sir Walter will take us home with him, and when the Iron Chancellor is lifting his mask for us?

And when the times are ripe for one's children to enter with one into the fields of criticism, of essay, and of poetry, there are good times, indeed—and we still call largely upon the library, though here our very own must be if possible our own. Just one word in plea for the cultivation of a love of poetry in the child. Catch them with chaff—good, bright, yellow chaff—with here and there a wheat grain. Teach them to love rhyme and rhythm. Few can resist the notes "when the Dinkey bird is singing on the Amfullula tree"! The Wonderland and Looking-glass verses are invaluable and inimitable also.

This leads to what is perhaps an unnecessary plea for the novel. Most of our average homes own their Thackerays, their Hawthornes, and standard allies—but for the hosts behind and the hosts advancing—the "Peter Stirling," the "David Harum," the "Seats of the mighty," for such of Stevenson as we are not lucky enough to own; for the new Kiplings, and the old Hardy's, for the Tolstoy's, and the Turgeneffs, and the Merediths, for the best of the Balzacs, and the Hugos, and the Peredas most of us must draw from and bless the library.

And in relation to them let me urge most strongly the cultivation through the popular taste for fiction, through the awakening and interesting novel, of a taste for collateral reading of an informing and culture-giving kind.

Who can read Russian literature at all extensively and not become intensely interested, not only in the creations of Tolstoy, and of Gogol and of Dostoyevsky, but also in the history and the future of that wonderful, young, half-barbaric nation, its present social and economic conditions, its great ambitions and its achievements, which are daily working themselves out before our eyes?

It is evident that I am allowing this to become a mere plea for books—but that after all is the attitude of the home toward the library. Is it possible that these suggestions

as to how a home might use a library could be turned to the library's account?

Until the time comes when it shall be possible to admit adults to the general shelves, could there not be groupings of the judicious selections which are made in most libraries of the desirable books to which the public do have access? Undoubtedly this is already very generally done, but possibly the co-operation of interested library readers could suggest fresh groupings of novel, history, biography, poetry, and criticism about a subject—and without making it a cut and dried "collection," or giving it a name, might not the putting of such books together in subsections of open shelves suggest lines of reading and give continuity and purpose to some of those who seek but do not find?

Every growth in a human soul should be reflected in every other soul that comes in contact with it. Might we not in some such way as this increase the number of points of contact? Take advantage in this of those people with hobbies—no town is without them—and let them be in this way real public benefactors, each in his line.

In another very ordinary and yet too often neglected way I believe that the home might help the local library more frequently than it does, by bringing to the notice of friends and neighbors and associates books which have been obtained from the library—by speaking of them, and of their interest, more often, and more enthusiastically.

The next thought that comes to my mind in this relation is an entirely tentative one. It is the appointment of a committee of advisers as to purchase, as to local needs, and as to the

devising of methods to meet those needs. I would make this committee not a permanent one, but one upon which many of the intelligent townsmen and townswomen might serve in rotation. I would also suggest that this committee should be open to free suggestion from the outside. And, though it may be quite beyond my subject, I cannot resist adding the expression of my hope that public libraries may see their way clear, at some not distant day, to the establishment of art libraries such as that of the Pratt Institute of Brooklyn. Is it Utopian to go a step farther, and to hope that the Pratt Institute itself, and the others when they shall have obtained their collections, may see the way clear to loaning photographs among the homes of their people, as Miss Starr and Miss Addams have been doing for years from Hull House, in Chicago?

If I were not already provided with and fully satisfied with a profession, I could feel it in my heart to envy librarians theirs. They are the guardians of so much of "all the good the past has had, which remains to make our own time glad!" It is the greatest pleasure to me to see so many of our best and brightest students choosing the library profession—becoming guardians and distributors of those

"Great words and true.

This little hour of life, this lean to-day.

What were it worth but for those mighty dreams

That sweep from down the past on sounding streams

Of such high thoughted words as poets say?

What, but for Shakespeare's and for Homer's lay,

And bards whose sacred names all lips repeat?

Words, only words; yet, save for tongue and pen

Of those great givers of them unto men,

And burdens they still bear of grave or sweet,

This world were but for beasts, a darkling den."

## SOME MEANS BY WHICH CHILDREN MAY BE LED TO READ BETTER BOOKS.\*

BY CLARA W. HUNT, *Free Public Library, Newark, N. J.*

THE aim of the children's room, like that of the main library, is to induce people to read better books, but the field is a far more hopeful one. With children we have no such fixed and inflexible habits to break, no such suspicion of attempts to direct reading. In work with children opportunities are endless. It only remains to believe in those opportunities, and to devote time and thought to the study of ways and means.

\* Part of a paper read before the New Jersey Library Association.

Let us take for granted the establishment of a children's room, large, bright, homelike, furnished with small tables and chairs, with low bookcases, plants in the sunny windows, and with quantities of low-hung pictures of the sort that appeal to the child's interest and imagination—How are we going to reach the boy who has read every one of Optic's books "straight through," who has nearly finished the Alger series, and intends to begin on Ellis next; or his sister, whose ideals of girlhood are Elsie Dinsmore and Little Prudy?—Are these

children to be led to read, and to prefer to read, the children's books which may have a strong influence for good on their characters?

There are many baits by which we may allure the "Ellis boy" and the "Elsie girl." The bulletin is, of course, the most widely used and the best known. All sorts of special "days" in libraries come under this head. These plans may be followed as elaborately as desired on the holidays — Thanksgiving, Washington's birthday, Fourth of July, etc. — the object, of course, being either to choose a subject which is uppermost in the minds of the children, so that anything bearing on it will catch their eyes, or to make the subject of interest by the attractiveness of the display.

There are, however, two points in which the bulletin plan sometimes fails. One is its frequent lack of definite purpose. I have seen the bulletin-board in a children's room crowded with a miscellaneous collection of portraits of authors, pictures of birds, remarks about postage stamps, a picture of the *Maine*, and many other things, the whole tending to a confused jumble of information, with no references to books on the subjects which the child might be led to take home. When the bulletin has awakened an interest which it does not direct to definite purpose it has failed to make the most of its possibilities. Another point to be noted relates to the *form* of the bulletin, which should be influenced by the character of the constituency. The bulletin which will attract the attention of the child brought up in a refined home may be passed by entirely by the street urchin, whose art gallery has been the theatre posters on the public walls and fences. The bulletin must not descend to bad taste or vulgarity, of course; but if a blackboard with red and yellow letters and lively sketches will attract the little gamin when an engraving in a Rembrandt mat will not do so, evidently the blackboard is what is needed.

More potent in the children's room than the bulletin is the sight of a new book. Let a small boy see on a table on his way to the shelf a book which has never been taken out by another child, whose fresh and shining cover is decorated with a picture of a "chemical" dashing to the fire, of an Indian, or a ship, and the chances are that that book will be eagerly carried away. I would like to be absolutely extravagant in having new books for the children's room. If there were always new

copies of the books we wished to circulate, there is little doubt that the worn books of less merit would gradually lose their popularity. I would have all new books conspicuously in evidence on the tables, spread out so that the front covers would show, not standing on a new book-shelf with only the back titles visible. It might be well also to have some of the preparation of the new books for the shelves going on before the children, so that they would realize that the library was constantly adding to their stores of pleasure.

Let the children think that they are having something to say about what books are ordered. If Victor is fond of books about the sea, tell him you have just seen a notice of a new "Book of the ocean," and ask him if he would like to have you order it. Let him see you write the slip and file it in your order-tray, and if Victor and his chums are not interested in watching for that book and taking it home when it comes, then I don't know boys. It is a temptation also to be extravagant in good editions of the best books. The beautiful Crane copy of Hawthorne's "Tanglewood tales," for instance, might seem out of place in a public circulating library when there are so many fair cheap editions to be had, but the lovely illustrations and the glossy paper and beautiful print, the good taste of the whole, is as much an education to the artistic sense as the contents are to the literary taste. An expensive book like this might be starred and only allowed to go out with the express permission of the children's librarian, who would give it with a caution to take special care of it and require the child to bring the book back to her to be examined, so that she might know whether this child could be again trusted with such a book.

Another device for attracting the children is the printing of annotated catalogs prepared with the child's point of view constantly in mind. But if many of the juvenile lists in print are examined from the standpoint of an unlitrary boy or girl of 10 or 12 choosing books from the list, the examiner will be apt to find himself still choosing those authors whom he already knows and not venturing on any of the new names. These lists are helpful to the librarian, but are almost never calculated to appeal to young children or to those who come from homes where books are not a part of the household furniture. Glance at some of the headings taken from one of our best juvenile catalogs



and we see "Religion and ethics"; "Biography—collective"; "Individual biography"; "Fine arts"; "Literature"; "Government and administration." What does the word "Biography" convey to the mind of the boy or girl except the thought of a sign-post to warn him or her away from anything with so formidable a title? Introduce the subject with some such heading as "Would you like to read about heroes of the olden time, brave engineers and sailors, beautiful princesses and girls who could sing like the birds? Here is a list of such books"—and they will not be likely to fight shy of books on "Biography, collective or individual." In making annotations for a children's list it is well to "pretend" that you are talking to the urchin, not writing "copy" for the printer. Give a hint of the story to awaken interest, and then stop short, leaving curiosity unsatisfied. Use simple, childlike language, but be careful, however, to avoid silly "baby talk." Have the cover illustrated attractively; scatter along the heads of divisions bits of child verse; use varieties of type.

Another point to be remembered in the children's room is that rules need not be so iron-clad as in the "grown-up" library. There must be wisdom about making exceptions to rules, for children have a keen sense of justice and they should never suspect "partiality." But if a girl whom the librarian is anxious to help to better reading has inquired once or twice for such a book as "What Katy did," and says disconsolately that "it is never in," and if reserves are against the rules, the librarian might watch for that book, when it comes in, quietly lay it aside, and the next time the girl appears contrive to have it reach her without knowledge on her part that any rule has been stretched.

When all has been said and done about devices and schemes and baits, there is nothing that will take the place of, or count for as much as, personal contact of librarian and children. If the librarian is an honest lover of children, and if she knows their books not simply from lists, but from actually reading them, she can do a thousand times more for the boys and girls than all the bulletins, catalogs, bright covers, and every other material device put together. If she is all this and much more, she will be interested in every individual child that comes into her room. She will remember their likes and dislikes; she

will make every child feel that she is a friend, and yet never let them suspect that she is interfering with their choice of books; she will confide in the children and win their help and confidence; she will use her specially intelligent boys and girls as a sort of book committee to help her decide on what books the children will like; she will interest the suburban children in keeping the rooms supplied with wild flowers and other treasures of the woods; and some day when she is particularly busy she will help more people than suspect it, by getting one of the older girls to read to the little ones who are growing too noisy over in their corner. She will have a mind above caring about the fiction per cent. in her room, believing that it is a higher aim to help the boys and girls to be *good* than to be merely wise, and knowing that the child's character is more strongly influenced by the ideals of his dear story-book friends than by Gradgrind facts.

One cannot lay down definite rules under this head of personal work, but by means of it the children's room might become a synonym for everything that is helpful and beautiful and uplifting to the child, a second home from which the boys and girls go out with enthusiastic interest in the world about them, with more than the germs of a taste for history, or poetry, or biography, with the reading habit formed and the consciousness deeply rooted in their minds that books may always be their friends and teachers; with a distaste, it is to be hoped, for weak, trashy books; but above all, with higher ideals of manhood and womanhood, and with aspirations to be brave and honest and pure like the life-long friends who have come to them through that dear medium, the book.

#### HINTS TO YOUNG READERS.

*W. E. Foster, in Providence (R. I.) Public Library Bulletin, March, 1899.*

1. Begin by basing your reading on your school text-books.
2. Learn the proper use of reference-books.
3. Use books in order to obtain and express ideas of your own.
4. Acquire wholesome habits of reading.
5. Use imaginative literature, but not immoderately.
6. Do not try to cover too much ground.
7. Do not hesitate to ask for assistance and suggestions at the library.
8. See that you make your reading a definite gain to you, in some direction.

## LIBRARY WORK IN SCHOOLS.

*Charles Davidson, Inspector University of the State of New York, at meeting of N. Y. Library Association, Poughkeepsie, Feb. 15, 1899.*

ALL teachers agree that a library is necessary if the best work is to be done in the grammar or high school. This library may take the form of a grade library in each school-room, a common school library for all grades, or a public library. The library should be placed as near the pupil as possible; therefore, all other conditions being equal, the grade library is for grammar schools preferable to the common school library and the school library to the public library that is two or more blocks from the school-house.

When the teacher of the grammar school is deeply interested in the children's reading she is the best possible librarian. When the head of the English department in the high school is a specialist she is the best guide. When the high school can support a librarian who is a mature and skilled teacher she is the best librarian for the high school. These conditions, however, are seldom satisfied. Many high schools have no specialist teachers and many teachers in the grades have but faint interest in literature. Where these conditions exist the librarian of the public library should step in. He should advise the pupils in the choice of reading. This is a difficult matter. Educated adults too often recommend the books that interest them, since their reading has been haphazard and recollections of their reading when children are uncertain. The librarian must get very near the children to meet their needs.

Even where the teacher's interest in reading is quick, resources are limited. Few schools can buy so freely that the children may always be supplied with that which is fresh and stimulating. The public library may supplement the efforts of the school. There seems no good reason why the public library may not send a branch library to every school, and renew it as often as necessary. Such a library must be carefully graded to the needs of the class. This can easily be done for the grammar grades if the graded lists in catalogs be consulted and the progress of class-work be kept in mind. For the high school special libraries may be formed for the special needs of different classes. Many libraries of this character are sent from Albany to the high schools. There is no reason why this demand should not be met by the local library.

In the seventh and eighth grades instruction seems on the eve of a great development. The subjects studied are the same as those taught in the lower grades. The students lack maturity for high-school studies, but are most favorably circumstanced for the broadening of information. They do now more home reading than the students of any other classes. In connection with the study of history and geography a library of some hundreds of volumes would be read with avidity. If the school-room were converted into a library, and careful reading were directed along the lines of their present study in history, geography, literature,

science, and business operations, the students would be better prepared than now for the severer studies of the high school. This development in instruction cannot take place without the aid of the library, since schools cannot afford the expense.

If the librarian is to act as guide in reading for the public school he must have a recognized footing in the schools. He must be at liberty to enter the rooms and at stated times to direct and advise with the status of aid to the teacher and instructor to the children. He should, I think, have a recognized status in the school faculty, but always as an ally, never as supplanting the teacher.

Finally, this alliance between teacher and librarian should go farther than the selection of books and the direction of the reading for school children. The library and the high school should be the local centre for home education. The librarian should be the local representative of the university in home education, and the high-school teachers should, each in his specialty, be efficient aids in carrying education home to the adult population.

## WORK WITH THE SCHOOLS IN THE BUFFALO PUBLIC LIBRARY.

*C. G. Leeland, at Buffalo Library Club, March 18, 1899.*

IN the early part of 1898 the library undertook the work of supplying each grade in 10 of the public schools with a small library of its own. The schools were selected by the superintendent of public instruction from a number that made application, so the library had the advantage from the start of working with principals who were in sympathy with the plan.

By agreement, all the books which these schools had been collecting in the way of libraries for years were turned over to the public library; the material suitable for use in grade work was sorted out and prepared; and the remainder, consisting of books not suited to young people, were done up in packages, properly marked and stored in the library, to be returned to the schools if desired.

A graded list of all classes of children's books was next prepared, ranging from the picture and toy books of the kindergarten grades and the easiest stories up through the nine different grades of a grammar school to the supplementary reading in history and literature of the highest grades, always following as closely as possible the work laid out by the Department of Public Instruction for the different grades.

From this graded list a general selection of about 40 books was made for each grade, and during October, 1898, 163 of these little libraries, amounting to over 6400 books, were sent out to the 10 schools.

These books were placed in the different class-rooms, and, a record-book being sent out with each library, the teacher became librarian for her room.

The books are used for reference in school-work and for general circulation among the pupils; but, in order to take books home, the

children are required to register in the Buffalo Public Library, and a special card is issued to them for school use, for the purpose of making them familiar with library methods.

Every month the circulation of each school and each grade is taken, for the purpose of finding out just what is being done. These figures show simply the home circulation of the books, not the actual use; for the reference use in the class-room, of which no record is kept, certainly equals, if it does not exceed, the home use. The average circulation of the 10 schools for the five months is 7000 books per month.

A special effort to interest teachers and pupils in the books given them has been made by furnishing them with mounted pictures. The value of pictures in school-work cannot be overestimated. They are used principally in geography and history classes, and also for decorative purposes. The library has sent out over 4000 of these pictures: beautiful views of every country in the world, portraits of famous people, historical pictures, and reproductions of the works of great artists. Sets of pictures have also been furnished to principals for talks on special subjects.

Taking everything into consideration, the library work in the public schools seems to be satisfactory to both library and schools, and the superintendent of the public library hopes eventually to see the system extended to every school in the city.

#### LIBRARY REORGANIZATION AT THE UNIVERSITY OF PENNSYLVANIA.

UNDER the management of the new librarian, Dr. Morris Jastrow, a very interesting work is being done at the Library of the University of Pennsylvania in the entire revision of its catalog. The peculiar interest in this case is the fact that the work is to be done in a short time, and to do this work, for a collection of upwards of 150,000 volumes, requires a large staff of workers. The former card catalog consisted of an author and title and classed or systematic catalog. The new one will be a dictionary catalog, as it is considered on the whole more useful to the general reader even of a university library. In addition to the revision of the catalog, the library aims to be complete in all its records by having a shelf list and accession book, neither of which have heretofore been made. A revision of the book numbers and of the classification is also being included in the work.

The work involved in the revision of the catalog and other records is enormous. It is expected that the task will be completed before October, 1900, and to do this it was necessary to engage a special staff of catalogers, classifiers, shelf-listers, accession clerks, and pasters. The whole number at present employed (independently of the regular assistants who are doing the usual routine work of the library) is 45. These are divided into groups, each with its own chief, classifier, shelf-lister, catalogers, and pasters, and each group is engaged on one division of the library, which is classified ac-

cording to the Decimal classification with modifications. The whole charge of the revision work is under the direction of Miss Susan J. Randall, a graduate of the Drexel Institute Library School, who is assisted by Miss Carson, of the regular university library staff. A large number of the revisers are graduates or students of library schools, of whom 18 are from the Drexel Institute School, four from the Pratt, two from the New York State School, two from the training class of the New York Free Circulating Library, two from summer schools, and besides these there are 17 untrained young women and boys as accessioners, pasters, markers, etc.

The library aims to make its valuable collection of books of the greatest possible use to professors and students. It is believed that with a card catalog that can be made to show to the best advantage the resources of the library on all subjects, an important step will be taken towards making the library a very active force in the university.

#### BEST 50 BOOKS OF 1898 FOR A VILLAGE LIBRARY.

THE following list represents the result of the annual consideration of the books of the year, made by librarians, under the auspices of the New York State Library. The selection is based upon a list of 500 of the leading books of 1898, sent out to the librarians of New York state and others to obtain an expression of opinion regarding the best 50 books of last year to be added to a village library. As four books in the 49th rank received the same number of votes, 52 books are named in the order of votes received:

RANK.		VOTES.
1.	Kipling. The day's work . . .	116
2.	Bryce. William Ewart Gladstone . . .	91
	Smith. Caleb West, master diver . . .	91
4.	Worcester. Philippine islands and their people . . .	88
5.	Parker. Battle of the strong . . .	87
6.	Wiggin. Penelope's progress . . .	86
	Wyckoff. The workers: the west . . .	86
8.	Page. Red Rock . . .	83
9.	Mitchel. Adventures of François . . .	75
	Rostand. Cyrano de Bergerac; from the French by G. Thomas and M. F. Guillemand . . .	75
11.	Crawford. Ave Roma immortalis . . .	73
	Hawkins. Rupert of Hentzau . . .	73
	Ward. Helbeck of Bannisdale . . .	73
14.	Lodge. Story of the Revolution . . .	70
15.	Peary. Northward over the great ice . . .	67
16.	Steevens. With Kitchener to Khar-tum . . .	66
17.	Davis. Cuban and Porto Rican campaigns . . .	63
18.	Kidd. Control of the tropics . . .	58
19.	Deland. Old Chester tales. . . .	57
20.	Westcott. David Harum . . .	49
	Wright. Four-footed Americans and their kin . . .	49
22.	Lee. Life of William Shakespeare . . .	48
23.	Parloa. Home economics . . .	47

24. Bismarck-Schönhausen. Bismarck the man and the statesman . . . 46
25. Earle. Home life in colonial days. . . 45
- Shaler. Outlines of the earth's history. . . 45
27. Hewlett. Forest lovers . . . 44
- Spears. Our navy in the war with Spain. . . 44
- Thompson. Wild animals I have known. . . 44
30. Weyman. Castle inn . . . 43
- Wingate. What shall our boys do for a living? . . . 43
32. Demolins. Anglo-Saxon superiority: to what it is due . . . 42
- Henty. Under Wellington's command. . . 42
- Higginson. Tales of the enchanted islands of the Atlantic . . . 42
35. Griffis. Pilgrims in their three homes—England, Holland, and America . . . 41
- Higginson. Cheerful yesterdays . . . 41
- Zangwill. Dreamers of the Ghetto . . . 41
38. Dana. Recollections of the civil war. . . 40
39. Emery. How to enjoy pictures. . . 39
- Hulme. Flags of the world . . . 39
41. Bailey. Garden making . . . 38
- Brooks. True story of Benjamin Franklin . . . 38
- Hedin. Through Asia . . . 38
- Henderson. What is good music? . . . 38
- Lander. In the forbidden land . . . 38
46. Colquhoun. China in transformation. . . 37
- Grinnell and Roosevelt. Trail and camp-fire . . . 37
- Scott. Roden's corner . . . 37
49. Hill. Cuba and Porto Rico . . . 36
- Hutton. Boy I knew and four dogs . . . 36
- Mable. Essays on work and culture. . . 36
- Stevens. Yesterdays in the Philippines. . . 36

#### N. E. A. COMMITTEE ON LIBRARIES AND SCHOOLS.

THE committee appointed by the National Educational Association to report at the Los Angeles meeting this summer on the relation of public libraries to public schools is actively collecting material on the subject. Miss M. Louise Jones, of the State Normal School, Emporia, Kan., has charge of that part of the report dealing with library work in normal schools, and has issued a circular asking full statistical information from all normal schools and pedagogic departments regarding their library activities. She says: "Especial attention will be given to the needs of the schools at the county cross-roads, in the villages and small cities. The relation of the teacher to the general intelligence of the boys and girls is vital; the relation of the normal schools and pedagogic departments in universities and colleges to this part of education is second to none other in importance. Whatever these schools have already done should be recognized, whatever more they can do should be made known, in order that the common schools, our national lines of fortification, may be strengthened." Any aid or information that librarians can give to this committee should be cordially extended, as its work is of as direct importance to librarians as to teachers.

#### REFERENCE AND CIRCULATING DEPARTMENTS AT WORCESTER.

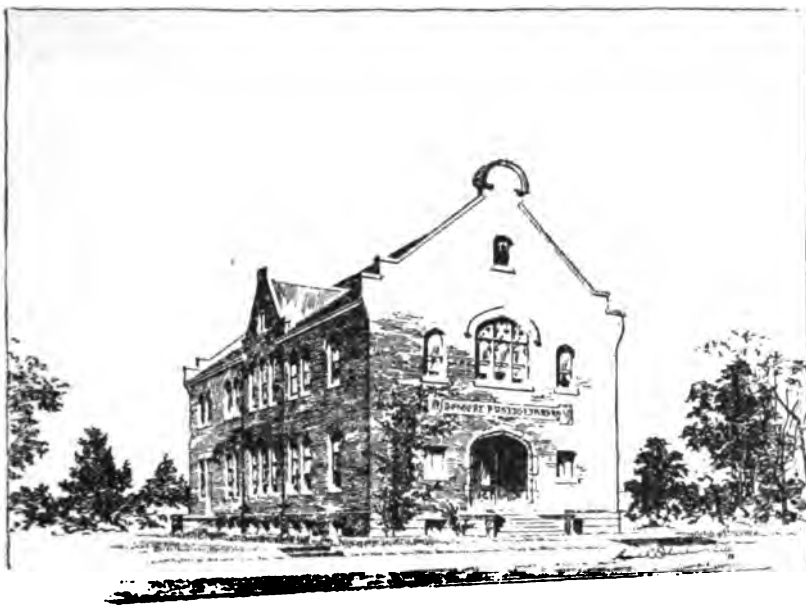
IN the issue of the LIBRARY JOURNAL for March, under the title "A French view of American libraries," Dr. Albert Schinz is referred to as making the following statement: "The Worcester plan of 'cutting the library in two' by creating distinct reference and circulating departments is also noted, but the arbitrary lines of decision this involves are not approved." A translation of a portion of Dr. Schinz's words, not quoted in the article mentioned, is as follows: "But it is impossible to see in most cases what criterion would be used to put a volume in one division rather than in the other. So no one will be astonished to see that caprice plays a great rôle in these decisions. One can see no reasonable motive, for example, in placing the recent volume of M. A. Sabatier, 'Outlines of philosophy of religion,' and still less, 'The autobiography of a pocket-handkerchief,' by Cooper, among the books of reference, rather than with the books designed for circulation."

"Caprice" is not the right word; "judgment" would have been better.

We are obliged by the terms of our chief gift to have a reference library from which books may not be taken out for use at home. We have between this and the circulating department an intermediate department, in which we put books for various reasons which seem to us good. In regard to Sabatier's work, we have a copy in English in the circulating department. That meets the need of the general public. It seemed well, however, to have the work at hand in the original French for the use of persons who wished to verify the translations. That was put into the intermediate department. Anybody who wishes to read the book in French can have it to take home by asking for it, and not by "special favor," as Dr. Schinz states. Cooper's work is not one of general interest, but mainly of interest to students of American literature and the life of Cooper. It is published in a limited edition of 500 copies, and might be very hard to replace if lost. This book can also be taken out by merely asking leave.

While Dr. Schinz is misled by imperfect information in this respect, I wish to express appreciation of the cordial way in which he endorses an opinion of mine in regard to a subject in library economy, and for the pleasant way in which he mentions various features of the Free Public Library of Worcester as matters of public interest to foreigners. May I take this opportunity, too, to state the pleasure which I felt when, not long ago, Dr. Nörrenberg, of Kiel University, in recommending (in Reyer's "Entwicklung und Organization der Volksbibliotheken") the introduction into Germany of the free public library system of the United States, chose the Free Public Library of Worcester for description as showing the kind of institution he would like to see established in his own country.

SAMUEL SWETT GREEN.



THE JOSEPH DESSERT PUBLIC LIBRARY, MOSINEE, WIS.

### THE JOSEPH DESSERT PUBLIC LIBRARY, MOSINEE, WIS.

THE new library building given to Mosinee, Wis., by Joseph Dessert, of that place, and dedicated on Feb. 11, 1899, is one of the most attractive and complete of the many public libraries recently established in Wisconsin towns. The dedication of the library was a great event in the history of the village, and though on that day the thermometer registered 38° below zero there was a large attendance not only from Mosinee, but of visitors from adjacent towns in the Wisconsin valley.

The dedication was an all-day affair, arranged with the help of the state commission, and was rather in the nature of a library meeting than formal dedicatory exercises. In the morning a short session was held, at which an address of welcome was made by Mr. Dessert and greetings were extended from the other libraries represented. The Wisconsin Valley Library Association was then organized, with the purpose of uniting the efforts of women's clubs, teachers, librarians, and citizens of the region toward the establishment of public libraries and travelling libraries. The officers are: President, H. M. Thompson, Mosinee; Vice-presidents, J. D. Witter, Grand Rapids, and W. H. Bradley, Tomahawk; Secretary, Miss Mary Dickens, Wausaw; Treasurer, Mrs. Henry Curran, Stevens Point. Reports were presented showing that in three years the number of public libraries in the Wisconsin valley had trebled and 60 travelling libraries had been established. At the afternoon session travelling libraries and travelling pictures were discussed, Mr. F. A. Hutchins describing the

work of the Joseph Dessert travelling libraries, and Miss Mary Tanner, of Stevens Point, displaying and describing an exhibit of travelling pictures. The evening exercises took the form of a public meeting, which was largely attended. There were addresses by Mr. Dessert, Miss Stearns, Mr. Hutchins, and others, and in the intermissions the library rooms were thronged with interested and admiring visitors.

Joseph Dessert, the giver of the library and founder of the Dessert travelling libraries that operate in the Wisconsin valley under the direction of the state commission, was a pioneer fur-trader and lumberman in northern Wisconsin in the early '40's, and in 1859 founded the Joseph Dessert Lumber Company in Mosinee, of which he is still president, and which is the centre of the industrial life of Mosinee. The library building which he has given to the town has cost about \$9000, and all expenses of its maintenance will be defrayed by Mr. Dessert. It is a brick structure, with stone foundations, two storied, and 36 x 72 feet in dimensions. A library-room, a reading-room, and a children's room, all artistically finished and thoroughly equipped, occupy the main floor, while the second story is devoted to a well-arranged auditorium, with a large stage, which it is planned to make the amusement centre of the town. The librarian is Miss Emma Gattiker.

The loan department of the library was opened Feb. 15 with about 500 books. As the population (about 500) of the village includes quite a number of Germans and French, a few German books were bought and proved so popular that more are to be bought and some French books are also to be added. There are 258 borrowers, and the circulation for two months was 1357.

## REVISION OF A. L. A. CONSTITUTION.

THE following draft is suggested by the A. L. A. committee on constitutional revision for consideration and presentation at the Atlanta meeting. Changes and inserts are indicated by italics:

1. *Name and object.*

§ 1. *Name.* This organization shall be called the American Library Association.

§ 2. *Object.* Its object shall be to promote the welfare of libraries by stimulating public interest in founding and improving libraries, by securing needed state and national legislation, by furthering such co-operative work as shall improve results or reduce expenses, by exchanging views and making recommendations, and by advancing the common interests of librarians, trustees, and others engaged in library and allied educational work, *with the final purpose of providing the best reading for the largest number at the least cost.*

2. *Membership.*

§ 1. *Members and fellows.* Any librarian, trustee, or other person engaged in library administration may become a member or fellow, and any library institution may become a member of the association by signing the constitution or a membership application blank supplied by the secretary, to be filed in the records, and by paying the annual dues. Other persons interested in library work may in the same manner become members after election by the executive board.

§ 2. *Annual dues.* The annual dues shall be two dollars for annual members and five dollars for fellows or institutions, payable in January.

§ 3. *Associates.* Associate members may be admitted for a single year on approval by the board and on payment of a special fee of \$1, or such other sum as shall be required by the executive board, and of the annual dues of \$2. Associates shall be entitled to the privileges of attendance (except at close sessions) and of reduced rates granted to members, but not to votes in the meetings. No special fee shall be required from persons in the immediate family of members.

§ 4. *Honorary members.* Honorary members nominated by the executive board may be elected by unanimous vote at any meeting of the association and shall be exempt from dues.

§ 5. *Life members and fellows.* Any annual member can become a life member or life fellow, entitled during life to all rights and privileges of membership without payment of annual dues, by payment of \$25 for life membership or \$100 for life fellowship.

3. *Endowment fund.*

§ 1. All receipts from life memberships and all gifts for endowment purposes shall constitute an endowment fund, which shall be invested and kept forever inviolate. The interest shall be expended as the council may direct. The custody of the endowment fund shall be committed to three trustees, one of whom shall be elected by ballot at each annual meeting of the association, to hold office for three years from

the date of his election. No money shall be expended from the endowment fund except on check signed by a majority of the trustees.

4. *Officers and committees.*

§ 1. The officers of the association shall be a president, *first and second* vice-presidents, a secretary, a recorder, and a treasurer, *who shall be elected by ballot at the annual meeting and shall hold office until the adjournment of the meeting at which their successors are elected.* These officers, together with the president for the preceding term, shall constitute an executive board and they shall serve as officers of the executive board and of the council.

§ 2. *President.* The president after serving a full term shall not be eligible for re-election for the term succeeding, except on specific and unanimous recommendation of the council. In case of his death, resignation, or inability to serve, the council, or, on its failure to meet and elect within one month after such vacancy occurs, the executive board, shall elect a successor, who may be eligible for election for the full term next succeeding; and pending such election the ranking vice-president shall act as president.

§ 3. *Secretary.* The secretary, subject to the general authority of the president, shall be the active executive officer, and his office shall be the general office of the association. He may be compensated by such salary or allowance as may be recommended by the finance committee, approved by the council, and authorized by the association. He shall have charge of the roll of members, of the books, papers, and correspondence, and of the publication of the annual handbook, and shall give due notice of any election, appointment, meeting, or other business requiring the personal attention of any member.

§ 4. *Recorder.* The recorder shall keep a faithful record of the attendance and proceedings at each meeting of the association, council or executive board, and shall have charge of the publication of the proceedings. On the request of the recorder, the executive board may appoint a registrar who shall act as deputy recorder to register the members present at meetings of the association.

§ 5. *Treasurer.* The treasurer shall keep a full and accurate record of all receipts and disbursements, with date, purpose, and amount; collect dues; pay bills, but only on written order of two members of the finance committee; and shall make an annual report.

§ 6. *Executive board.* The executive board shall administer the general affairs of the association, and shall have power in intervals between meetings of the association or of the council to act for the association on all matters on which its members at a meeting or by correspondence reach and record unanimous agreement. The executive board shall designate from the membership of the association a finance committee, consisting of three members, and in its discretion a co-operation committee, a committee on public documents, and other committees, and may appoint assistant officers or reporters, necessary or desirable to transact business or prepare reports for the association.

§ 7. *Finance committee.* The finance commit-

tee shall make all needed appropriations, audit bills, and give orders on the treasurer for payment; and no expense shall be incurred on behalf of the association by any officer or committee, in excess of the appropriation made for the purpose by the finance committee.

§ 8. *Votes by correspondence.* Any resolution approved in writing by every member of the executive board or of any committee shall have the force of a vote.

#### 5. Council.

§ 1. *Members.* There shall be a council of the association, which shall include as active councillors the members of the executive board and eighteen additional councillors to be elected, one-third each year, for a period of three years, by the association; and as representative councillors the designated representatives of sections and affiliated organizations.

§ 2. *Meetings.* The council shall meet at the place of meeting of the association, immediately prior to the first business session of the annual meeting of the association and immediately prior to the final session thereof, and also between meetings of the association on call of the executive board or of a majority of the elected councillors or of not less than ten representative councillors.

§ 3. *Quorum.* A quorum of the council shall consist at the annual meeting of fifteen of the active and representative councillors, and at other meetings of a majority of active councillors with such representative councillors as may be present.

§ 4. *Voting.* At the meetings of the council a vote shall be carried by the votes of two-thirds of the active councillors voting, unless by vote of two-thirds of the active councillors present the representative councillors shall be called upon to vote, in which case a vote shall be carried by the votes of two-thirds of the active and representative councillors voting. A representative councillor shall be entitled to a seat and voice at all meetings of the council, but not to a vote except as above provided.

§ 5. *Substitutes and proxies.* A section or an affiliated organization may designate a substitute for its representative councillor, but no other proxies shall be allowed. In case an active councillor is also a representative councillor he shall cast only one vote.

§ 6. *Duties.* The council shall provide any necessary regulations in respect to sections and affiliated organizations. It shall be empowered to fill vacancies in office occurring between the annual meetings of the association, but in case of its failure to elect within one month after such vacancy the vacancy may be filled by the executive board. It shall prepare recommendations for the annual meeting of the association, and all resolutions passed by the association, except votes of thanks and as to local arrangements during the annual meeting, shall be referred to the council previous to the final session of the association. At such final session, the council shall report on such resolutions, which shall stand as the act of the association only on the approval of the council, or, in case of disapproval by the council, on a three-fourths vote of the association; except that if the council fails to report on any resolution of the association, such resolution shall stand as the act of the association.

#### 6. Publishing section.

§ 1. The publishing section shall consist of five members appointed by the executive board for terms of not more than three years. Its object shall be to secure the preparation and publication of such catalogs, indexes, and other bibliographic and library aids as it may approve.

§ 2. The publishing section shall annually appoint from its own number a chairman, secretary, and treasurer.

§ 3. No moneys shall be paid by the treasurer except with the written approval of three other members of the publishing section, and no work shall be undertaken except by vote of a majority of the whole section.

§ 4. The treasury of the publishing section shall be entirely distinct from that of the association, and the association shall not be liable for any debts incurred by the publishing section. With the approval of the finance committee, money may be appropriated from the treasury of the association for the running expenses of the publishing section, but the publishing section shall depend on the endowment fund as the financial basis of its undertakings.

§ 5. The publishing section shall report in writing at each annual meeting of the Association.

#### 7. Sections.

§ 1. Sections for the consideration of the work of state, law, college, reference, large, small, or other libraries of special class, or of the relations of trustees, assistants, catalogers, or any other special class of library workers, may be formed by any ten members of the association, with the approval of the council.

§ 2. Each section may designate a chairman and a secretary who, with other officers or persons designated, shall constitute a managing committee for such section. The managing committee shall arrange, with the approval of the executive board, programs for section meetings, and shall designate each year a representative for the council of the association.

§ 3. Sessions of each section shall be provided for at the annual meetings of the association, and may be held also at other times and places, by vote of the section or of its managing committee. Sessions of the sections shall be open to any member of the association, but no member may vote in any section unless enrolled as a member of such section previous to the session.

§ 4. If at any time after one year from the organization of any section its active membership shall be less than twenty, or the attendance at a regular session should be less than ten, the council may withdraw the authority for such section.

#### 8. Affiliated organizations.

§ 1. Any state, local, or other library organization may be affiliated with the American Library Association, on approval by the council, by registering with the secretary its constitution or plan of organization, and by complying with the conditions, if any, prescribed by the council.

§ 2. Each affiliated organization shall pay into the treasury of the association annually ten cents

for each of its active members, and will be entitled to a copy of the proceedings and of the other publications of the association, including those of the publishing section.

§ 3. It shall be the duty of the council or of the executive board to provide or suggest a special topic and speakers for one session in each year of each affiliated organization.

§ 4. Each affiliated organization may designate each year a representative for the council of the association, but no person shall be so designated who is not a member of the American Library Association.

#### 9. Meetings.

§ 1. *Annual meetings.* There shall be an annual meeting of the association at such place and time as may be determined by the association, or, if it does not so determine, by the council, or, if that does not determine, by the executive board; and the council or executive board shall have power to alter the time and place of the annual meeting should occasion arise.

§ 2. *Special meetings.* Special meetings of the association may be called at the discretion of the council, and shall be called by the president on request of at least twenty members; provided that at least one month's notice be duly given, and that only business specified in the call shall be transacted.

§ 3. *Quorum.* Forty members shall constitute a quorum, provided not less than twenty thereof shall be resident elsewhere than at the place of meeting; but no vote shall be deemed carried unless thirty members vote in its favor. But no member shall be counted for the quorum or shall vote, except on votes of thanks and on local arrangements, who has not been a member for at least three months prior to the meeting.

§ 4. *Program.* The program for the annual meeting shall be arranged by a program committee provided for by the executive board, or, if such a committee be not appointed, then by the president and secretary of the association acting as such committee in co-operation with any local committee, and with the managing committees of the several sections, and the executive board may also appoint or approve a local committee to have charge, in consultation with the executive board, of the local arrangements for the general meeting. The executive board shall have authority to decide upon the presentation and printing of papers, and to delegate such authority to a committee or officer.

§ 5. *Elections.* It shall be the duty of the executive board to provide a ballot containing not less than two nominees for each candidacy to be voted on by the association, including any names filed with the secretary by five members twenty-four hours before such election.

§ 6. *Resolutions.* The executive board, or on its failure to act the president and secretary, shall designate for each annual meeting a resolutions committee, to prepare for the association needed votes of thanks and resolutions on local arrangements.

#### 10. Amendments and by-laws.

§ 1. *Amendments.* This constitution may be amended by a three-fourths vote at two suc-

cessive meetings of the association, provided that each member shall be notified of the proposed amendment at least one month before its final adoption.

§ 2. *By-laws.* Any by-law not inconsistent with this constitution may be adopted or amended by a three-fourths vote at any meeting and may be suspended by unanimous vote at any meeting.

### American Library Association.

*President:* William C. Lane, Harvard University Library, Cambridge, Mass.

*Secretary:* Henry J. Carr, Public Library, Scranton, Pa.

*Treasurer:* Gardner M. Jones, Public Library, Salem, Mass.

ATLANTA CONFERENCE, MAY 8-13, 1899.

The secretary has issued the following circular:

The annual meeting of the A. L. A. for the year 1899 will be held in Atlanta, Georgia, beginning Monday evening, May 8. The post-conference, and trip following, will begin Saturday morning, May 13.

Headquarters, and place of holding a majority of the sessions, will be at the Kimball House. Reduced rate of \$2.50 per day is given by that house to the A. L. A. people for this occasion. The local committee, on individual application, can make provision to a moderate extent at private boarding-houses and special rates for those who wish to be quartered outside of hotels. Send early notice to Miss Anne Wallace, Librarian Young Men's Library Association, Atlanta, Ga., in either case, stating accommodations desired.

#### ATTENDANCE.

Replies to the announcement circular of February 22, and other information received by the secretary, indicate that the attendance at the Atlanta meeting will be notable. Representation from all parts of the country is assured, and in larger numbers than at first seemed possible, considering the distances to be travelled.

#### PROGRAM.

The outline program printed below will indicate to some extent what has been planned for this meeting. Final details remain to be determined in some instances. The various section sessions are expected to prove marked features of the occasion; and for some of them the respective officers, or committees in charge, have prepared carefully chosen programs. It is believed that the particular subjects selected for such consideration, ample time for discussion and questioning being allowed, will be found most helpful and interesting.

The following well-known members of the association will have place, and are counted upon to take part in the program of either the public meeting or certain other general sessions: Messrs. Melvil Dewey, F. A. Hutchins, Charles C. Soule, Samuel S. Green, C. A. Cut-



ter, Frank P. Hill, Wm. H. Brett, John Thomson, and William Beer. Also one or more local speakers yet to be named.

#### General Program.

Monday, May 8. Evening (8:00-10:30).

- 1 Informal reception and acquaintance session.

Tuesday, May 9. Morning (10:00-12:30).

- 2 General session. — President's address; Reports of Officers, Committees, etc.

Afternoon (3:00-5:30).

- 3 Section sessions. — Elementary section (1)  
College and Reference Libraries (1)

Evening (8:00-10:00).

- 4 Public meeting. — Topics: Library advancement; Travelling libraries; Women's clubs and libraries; Library buildings (illustrated).

Wednesday, May 10. Morning (10:00-12:30).

- 5 General session. — Topics of Tuesday evening continued and discussed in detail.

Afternoon (2:00-6:30).

- 6 Local entertainment. — Trip to Stone Mountain, and barbecue, etc.

Evening (8:30-10:30).

- 7 Section sessions. — State and Law Libraries. (1)  
College and Reference Libraries. (2)

Thursday, May 11. Morning 10:00-12:30).

- 8 General session. — Co-operation committee in charge.

Afternoon (3:00-5:30).

- 9 Section sessions. — Elementary Section. (2)  
Large Libraries Section. (1)  
(Afternoon sessions at Piedmont Driving Club House; with lunch and "coondance" at sundown.)

Evening (8:00-10:30).

- 10 Reception and social at Piedmont Club House.

Friday, May 12. Morning (10:00-12:30).

- 11 General session. — Reports; Election; Discussion of open shelves.

Afternoon (3:00-5:30).

- 12 Section sessions. — Large Libraries Section. (2)  
Trustees Section. (1)

Evening (8:00-10:00).

- 13 Final session. — Resolutions; Unfinished business; Local entertainment.

Saturday, May 13. Morning (7:30-12:30).

- 14 Post-conference commences with trip to Chattanooga, etc.

#### TRUSTEES AND LIBRARIANS.

The association urges upon boards of library trustees and directors the importance of being represented at its meetings by one or more of their number. The Trustees Section has a regular organization, and the results of their participation in the conferences of the A. L. A. have been evident.

Furthermore, the sending of the librarian as a delegate (expenses paid if possible, but otherwise with leave of absence and full pay to any librarian or assistant who does attend the meeting) proves an equally desirable practice. The librarians get rest, recreation, and inspiration; they also obtain many direct suggestions; and ideas gained at the meetings may often profit the library for many years.

#### NOTE.

Members are requested to bring plans of library buildings recently erected or in contemplation; also, new blanks, appliances, or devices in library economy not previously exhibited or described.

#### TRAVEL ARRANGEMENTS.

The principal passenger traffic associations have authorized the customary round-trip rates of a fare and a third, on the certificate plan, from places in their territory. This practically includes all parts of the United States east of the Rocky Mountains, except Texas. Such rates are conditioned upon going and returning by the same route, and are somewhat restrictive as to stop-overs.

When buying tickets, ask for certificates for attendance at the meeting of the American Library Association at Atlanta. Agents at all important stations and coupon ticket offices are supplied with the necessary certificate forms. Lacking them, local tickets should be bought to the nearest point that is so provided.

Full first-class one-way fare must be paid in order to obtain a certificate. If a through ticket can not be procured at the starting point, purchase first to the most convenient trunk line point and there repurchase. *Obtain a standard certificate with each ticket. No reduction in return fare can be obtained without the certificate, countersigned at the meeting by both the Secretary and the special agent of the Passenger Associations.*

Tickets on this plan may be purchased not earlier than May 4, or later than May 10. *Stop-over privileges not allowed returning, and the certificates are not transferable.*

The reduction is good for all who wish to make avail of it and attend the meeting. Tickets for the return journey, at one-third fare, may be purchased not later than May 17 upon surrender of a properly countersigned certificate. Bear in mind that the issue of certificates, and tickets thereon, entails extra labor and requires much more time than usual ticket selling. Therefore be on hand early, or give notice to the agents at least 30 minutes before departure of trains.

The certificate plan, it may be said, serves best the purposes of such as desire to make a very expeditious trip, at the least outlay of time and money. The inconveniences of that plan are often reduced, however, and sometimes entirely avoided, by means of party arrangements, with consequent more freedom in route and stops. Therefore, those who can devote a little more time to the journey, and conform to certain advance details of routes and dates,

would better join one or the other of such travel parties of their respective sections, so far as place and circumstances will admit of doing.

#### PARTY PLANS.

An illustrated circular issued with the announcement contains particulars of the party trip arranged with the Norfolk and Western Railway by the travel committee for the Eastern and Seaboard sections. Together with the post-conference trip, it includes the time from May 5 to 19.

On behalf of the members located in the Central and Western states, Travel Secretary George B. Meleney, No. 215 Madison street, Chicago, Ill. (Library Bureau), has in hand the arrangements for a party trip, particulars of which will be announced in April to all who advise him of their intentions.

Meanwhile, all persons who expect to attend the meeting, and desire to take advantage of the special travel opportunities, should at once notify the nearest travel secretary. Let those residing north and west of the Ohio river and the meridian of Buffalo, in particular, communicate with Mr. Meleney. Routes via and tending towards Cincinnati and Chattanooga form the most usual and convenient thoroughfare for travel from that part of the country.

HENRY J. CARR, *Secretary*.

#### WESTERN TRAVEL ANNOUNCEMENT.

G. B. MELENEY, western travel secretary, has issued the following prospectus of special train arrangements (Chicago to Atlanta) for the accomodation of Western members.

#### ITINERARY.

Leave Chicago, Polk St. Depot (Monon Route), Saturday, May 6, 8:30 p.m.

Leave Indianapolis (C. H. & D.), Sunday, May 7, 3:35 a.m.

Arrive Cincinnati (C. H. & D.), Sunday, May 7, 7:30 a.m.

Sunday will be spent in Cincinnati for rest and a visit to the "Queen City."

Leave Cincinnati (Queen & Crescent Route), Sunday, May 7, 8 p.m.

Leave Lexington, Ky. (Queen & Crescent Route), Sunday, May 7, 10:30 p.m.

Arrive Chattanooga, Tenn. (Queen & Crescent Route), Monday, May 8, 6:25 a.m.

The train will be held till arrival of the Eastern Library train, both running to Atlanta as one train.

Leave Chattanooga (Southern Railway), Monday, May 8, 12:10 p.m.

Arrive Atlanta (Southern Railway), Monday, May 8, 5 p.m.

#### Returning.

Leave Atlanta (Southern Railway), Saturday, May 13, 7:50 a.m.

Arrive Chattanooga (Southern Railway), Saturday, May 13, 1 p.m.

At Lookout Inn over Sunday.

Leave Chattanooga (Queen & Crescent Route), Tuesday, May 16, 10 a.m.

Leave Cincinnati (C. H. & D.), Tuesday, May 16, 8:45 p.m.

Leave Indianapolis (Monon), Wednesday, May 17, 1:05 a.m.

Arrive Chicago (Monon), Wednesday, May 17, 7:30 a.m.

#### CONNECTIONS.

*At Cincinnati.* Those desiring to leave Chicago Sunday, May 7, 11:45 a.m., and Indianapolis Sunday, May 7, 3:45 p.m., can make close connection with the special leaving Cincinnati Sunday, May 7, 8 p.m.

Members from Michigan and Ohio, also from Western New York and Pennsylvania, arriving in Cincinnati during Sunday, the same. And so, too, from the West and Southwest via St. Louis over B. & O. or Big Four.

*At Lexington.* Members from the West and Southwest via St. Louis over L. E. & St. L.

*At Chattanooga.* Members from Southwest and West via Kansas City over K. C., F. S. & M., and Southern Railway.

#### WAGNER SLEEPERS.

Through sleeping cars will be run from Chicago to Atlanta on this train, being held in Cincinnati on Sunday and at Chattanooga till arrival of Eastern special. Through sleepers will be run from Chattanooga to Chicago on train leaving at 10 a.m., Tuesday, May 16.

#### COST.

Tickets are sold to Atlanta from any point for one full fare, and a certificate is issued by the ticket agent at place of purchase, which entitles the holder to procure a return ticket over the same route for one-third fare.

The cost from Chicago will be:

One fare.....	\$21.40
Return ticket, one-third.....	7.15
Through sleeper, \$4.50 each way.....	9.00

Total transportation.. \$37.55

Meals *en route* extra. Kimball House, Atlanta, \$2.50 per day.

#### TIME LIMIT.

The Central Passenger Association (Chicago and east of Chicago) allows for sale of tickets good for return from Atlanta till May 20.

The Western Passenger Association (west of Chicago) allows for sale of tickets good for return from Atlanta till May 14.

The Southeastern Passenger Association has made a ruling allowing stop-over at Chattanooga, on return trip, of three days.

The return trip, leaving Chattanooga in the morning, runs through the mountains of Tennessee and the Blue Grass region of Kentucky by daylight.

For berths and other information address,

GEO. B. MELENEY,  
215 Madison St., Chicago, Ill.,  
*Travel Secretary for the Western States.*

## INVITATION TO MONTREAL FOR 1900.

A FORMAL invitation to the American Library Association to hold its annual meeting in Montreal in 1900, and offering the use of the McGill University building for sessions, was forwarded to the secretary of the A. L. A. on March 28 by the authorities of McGill University, Montreal. The invitation, which has been previously presented to the association by Mr. Gould, of McGill University, is a most cordial one, and will be duly presented to the Atlanta conference.

Concerning this invitation, Mr. Dewey addresses the following communication to the JOURNAL:

"I learn with pleasure of the official invitation from the board of governors of McGill University for the A. L. A. to meet in Montreal in 1900. This seems to me an ideal place. We naturally should come east and north. Montreal is a delightful place in the summer, and we shall have an opportunity to see the great strides made in the last few years by McGill University, the leading institution of the entire Dominion. With the St. Lawrence, the Saguenay, Quebec, and other attractive features, and the chance to see libraries outside the United States without the labor and expense of a journey abroad, large numbers ought to accept the cordial invitation of McGill. I learn from Wisconsin that our friends there wish us to come in 1900, so that all interests seem to make the way clear for Montreal next year.

MELVIL DEWEY."

## State Library Commissions.

CONNECTICUT F. P. L. COMMITTEE: Caroline M. Hewins, secretary, Public Library, Hartford, Ct.

GEORGIA LIBRARY COMMISSION: Miss Anne Wallace, secretary, Young Men's Library, Atlanta, Ga.

INDIANA STATE LIBRARY COMMISSION: W. E. Henry, secretary, State Library, Indianapolis.

The governor has appointed the members of the newly created state library commission as follows: Joseph R. Voris, Bedford; Jacob P. Dunn, Indianapolis; Mrs. Elizabeth Claypool Earl, Connersville. State librarian W. E. Henry, by virtue of his office, is a member and secretary of the commission.

MASSACHUSETTS STATE L. COMMISSION: Miss E. P. Sohler, secretary, Beverly.

NEW HAMPSHIRE STATE L. COMMISSION: J. H. Whittier, secretary, East Rochester.

NEW YORK: Public Libraries Division, State University, Melvil Dewey, director, Albany.

OHIO STATE L. COMMISSION: C. B. Galbreath, secretary, State Library, Columbus.

VERMONT LIBRARY COMMISSION: Miss M. L. Titcomb, secretary, Public Library, Rutland.

WISCONSIN F. L. COMMISSION: F. A. Hutchins, secretary, Madison; Miss L. E. Stearns, librarian, Milwaukee.

## State Library Associations.

## CALIFORNIA LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.

President: F. J. Teggart, Mechanics' Institute Library, San Francisco.

Secretary: R. E. Cowan, 829 Mission Street, San Francisco.

Treasurer: Miss Emily I. Wade, Public Library, San Francisco.

## COLORADO LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.

President: A. E. Whitaker, State University Library, Boulder.

Secretary: Herbert E. Richle, City Library, Denver.

Treasurer: J. W. Chapman, McClelland Library, Pueblo.

## CONNECTICUT LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.

President: W. J. James, Wesleyan University Library, Middletown.

Secretary: Miss J. S. Heydrick, Pequot Library, Southport.

Treasurer: Miss Alice T. Cummings, Public Library, Hartford.

The eighth annual meeting of the Connecticut Library Association was held in the Case Memorial Library, Hartford, March 24, 1899.

After the usual business, Forrest Morgan gave an address on "Literature by sample," describing the history and making of anthologies.

At the recess for luncheon, opportunity was given to inspect the interesting exhibit of rare incunabula belonging to the Case Memorial Library, which included the four great polyglot Bibles and several block-letter books.

The first business of the afternoon session was the election of officers for the year, which resulted as follows: President, William J. James, Middletown; Vice-presidents, Mrs. Agnes Hills, Bridgeport, Mrs. Mary B. Cheney, South Manchester; Samuel P. Willard, Colchester; Cornelia W. Chappell, jr., New London; Harry W. Kent, Norwich; Secretary, Josephine S. Heydrick, Southport; Treasurer and assistant secretary, Alice T. Cummings, Hartford.

Professor Alfred T. Perry, librarian of the Case Memorial Library, outlined the system of classifying that library, which is one of the largest theological libraries in the United States. It was found that neither the Decimal nor Expansive systems of classification were adapted to its needs. The former omitted subdivisions for subjects upon which books were written, and gave others fitting no books; while the latter system was too complicated in numbering. The method evolved combines principles from each system. Theology is considered the centre or basis of the classification, and the 26 letters of the alphabet are used to represent the 26 main classes into which all the books are divided. Subdivisions are made by adding decimal to these letters, as occasion demands. This combination of letters and figures make the class number, the author number being the Cutter number.

The discussion of the relation of the Sunday-school library to the public library occupied the rest of the afternoon.

The first paper on the subject was by William H. Hall, of West Hartford, who has had 20 years of experience in Sunday-school work in Connecticut. He outlined briefly the history of the Sunday-school library, the character of which was at first religious and largely doctrinal, but which was greatly modified by the introduction of the typical goody-goody Sunday-school trash. This latter lost its flavor after the young people found better books in the new public library, and the result has been a growing popularity of the public library and disuse of the Sunday-school library. Many books published by Sunday-school library publishers are now in demand elsewhere, and the character of the so-called Sunday-school story has improved. In answer to queries sent Sunday-school superintendents in the state, the almost universal reply was that the circulation of books from their libraries had largely decreased since the opening of the public library in the village or town. A few Sunday-school libraries have a carefully selected collection of books, and the reason for their disuse must not be attributed to the character of the selection. The public libraries have the advantage of better financial support and administration. They are more accessible, and parents and public school teachers refer more often to them. If the Sunday-school library would narrow its scope, and circulate chiefly aids for the Sunday-school lessons, it would perhaps fare better.

Mrs. George M. Stone told of the method successfully tried by the Asylum avenue Baptist Sunday-school. Finding their collection unpopular, some years ago, they gave it away, and replaced it by a collection of books including history, travel, biography, religion, science, and fiction, in the latter class being found the works of Besant, Black, Stowe, Wilkins, and Jewett. The library has been a success and greatly used.

A paper by Susan T. Clark, of Hartford, was read on the work of the Connecticut Ladies' Commission on Sunday-school Books. This commission was appointed by the Congregational Club of Connecticut for the purpose of reading and selecting books for Sunday-school libraries. There were 20 ladies on the commission, and all books placed on the published list were read and annotated by at least seven members, and voted upon by all. The list has had a wide circulation, and is perhaps more useful in what it excludes.

Mrs. Waldo S. Pratt also spoke upon the subject. Charles S. Wooding, of Bristol, advocated co-operation between Sunday-school and public libraries. The former have a legitimate place in supplying reading-matter for the youngest readers and helps for study of Sunday-school lessons, also in supplying supplementary reading, such as travel in Bible countries, biographies, and biblical fiction. Frank B. Gay and A. W. Tyler also urged co-operation.

Professor Perry said there were three ideals for Sunday-school libraries: first, one which supplied suitable Sunday reading; second, a select library including general literature; third, a working library for teachers and classes of the

school. In cities it is not the place of the Sunday-school library to furnish general reading, so its aim should be to supply a working library for the teachers — sets of commentaries, lives of Christ, books on missions, etc. This should be a circulating library, and open more than once a week.

Charles D. Hine said that the result of investigations by the Connecticut Public Library Commission showed there were between 70,000 and 75,000 books in Sunday-school libraries in the state, of which about nine-tenths were valueless, some positively harmful. The verdict of the investigation was that Sunday-school libraries have no right to exist except as helps to teachers, or when containing books on beliefs of especial denominations. They should in no way interfere with the public library.

After a vote of thanks to the trustees of the Case Memorial Library and Professor Perry, the meeting adjourned.

JOSEPHINE S. HEYDRICK, *Secretary*.

#### GEORGIA LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.

*President:* Miss Anne Wallace, Young Men's Library, Atlanta.

*Secretary-Treasurer:* C. W. Hubner, Atlanta.

#### ILLINOIS STATE LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.

*President:* E. S. Willcox, Public Library, Peoria.

*Secretary:* Miss M. E. Ahern, *Public Libraries*, 215 Madison St., Chicago.

*Treasurer:* Mrs. Josephine Resor, Public Library, Canton.

#### INDIANA LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.

*President:* W. E. Henry, State Library, Indianapolis.

*Secretary:* Miss Belle S. Hanna, Public Library, Greencastle.

*Treasurer:* Miss Jessie Allen, Public Library, Indianapolis.

#### IOWA STATE LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.

*President:* W. H. Johnston, Public Library, Fort Dodge.

*Secretary and Treasurer:* Miss Ella McLoney, Public Library, Des Moines.

#### MAINE LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.

*President:* E. W. Hall, Colby University, Waterville.

*Treasurer:* Prof. G. T. Little, Bowdoin College, Brunswick.

#### MASSACHUSETTS LIBRARY CLUB.

*President:* W. H. Tillinghast, Harvard University Library.

*Secretary:* H. C. Wellman, Public Library, Brookline.

*Treasurer:* Miss Margaret D. McGuffy, Public Library, Boston.

#### MICHIGAN LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.

*President:* H. M. Utley, Public Library, Detroit.

*Secretary:* Mrs. A. F. McDonnell, Bay City.

*Treasurer:* Miss Genevieve M. Walton, Normal College Library, Ypsilanti.

#### MINNESOTA LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.

*President:* Dr. W. W. Folwell, State University, Minneapolis.

*Secretary:* Miss Gratia Countryman, Public Library, Minneapolis.

*Treasurer:* Miss Anne Hammond, Public Library, St. Paul.

*NEBRASKA LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.*

*President:* W. E. Jillson, Doane College, Crete.

*Secretary:* Miss Edith Tobitt, Public Library, Omaha.

*Treasurer:* Miss M. A. O'Brien, Public Library, Omaha.

*NEW HAMPSHIRE LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.*

*President:* A. H. Chase, Concord.

*Secretary:* Miss Grace Blanchard, Public Library, Concord.

*Treasurer:* Miss E. A. Pickering, Public Library, Newington.

*NEW JERSEY LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.*

*President:* F. P. Hill, Free Public Library, Newark.

*Secretary:* Miss Clara W. Hunt, Free Public Library, Newark.

*Treasurer:* Miss Cecelia C. Lambert, Public Library, Passaic.

*TRI-STATE LIBRARY MEETING, ATLANTIC CITY, N. J.*

The annual joint meeting of the Pennsylvania and New Jersey Library associations, held at Atlantic City for three years past, was this year swelled by the co-operation of the New York Library Club, which voted to make this conference take the place of its regular March meeting. The meeting which was held March 17-18 was therefore the largest on record, and the most successful, despite the unfavorable weather, which indeed probably explained in a measure the large attendance at all sessions. Among those present were: W. C. Lane, president of the A. L. A.; Mr. and Mrs. H. J. Carr, C. A. Cutter, F. P. Hill, Dr. E. J. Nolan, A. E. Bostwick, Dr. E. C. Richardson, Dr. Morris Jastrow, Dr. Leipziger, John Thomson, Mr. and Mrs. T. L. Montgomery, Mr. and Mrs. Dewey, R. R. Bowker, A. W. Tyler, and others.

The first session was called to order at 8.50 on Friday evening, March 17, by Dr. E. J. Nolan, president of the Pennsylvania Library Club. Miss M. J. Milsted was elected secretary in the absence of Miss Farr. Dr. Nolan then delivered a short address of welcome, touching happily upon the astonishing development of library meetings in recent years, and referring to the early conferences of the A. L. A., which were smaller than many of the state meetings now held. He spoke of the first conference held in Philadelphia in 1876, sketched lightly the dominant figures there assembled—Poole, Winsor, Spofford, and Dewey—and spoke of the great results that had followed upon that meeting and its successors. "Those who have been regularly attendants at the meetings have been not only instructed by what they have heard, but stimulated by the example of earnest and cultured men and women, whose life-work is performed not as if it were a task set by a master, and to be accomplished with a minimum of effort and in the

briefest time, but rather as if it were regarded as a high mission inspired by the finest ideals for the moral and intellectual advancement of mankind." He touched also upon the triumph of library standards implied in the recent appointment of Mr. Putnam as Librarian of Congress, and the growing public feeling against the political misuse of library appointments.

"A lending library for libraries" was the first paper of the evening, by Dr. E. C. Richardson, of Princeton. It was a forcible and scholarly plea for the establishment of what the speaker termed a "National Lending Library" for libraries, either independent or as a department of the Library of Congress, intended to bring to students and investigators the material necessary in their work and unobtainable in local libraries, and to form the centre of a great organized system of inter-library loans. He referred with appreciation to the courteous aid given by Harvard University in lending books to other libraries, but said that it was of course impossible for any library, in justice to its own constituency, to meet the many and varying demands of other and less fully equipped institutions. The establishment of an authorized national centre for inter-library loans would, he thought, be of the broadest usefulness, effecting at least the "direct encouragement of scientific research, a very large national economy in removing unnecessary duplication of purchases, and an improvement of existing libraries, in removing the strain of competition and of effort to cover the whole ground." A short discussion followed, in which Mr. Warrington referred to the practicability of having copies of desired extracts from unattainable books made at the libraries owning the volumes, at small cost. Dr. Jastrow suggested that university libraries might specialize in certain fields, and thus facilitate the common interchange of desired books; Mr. Lane referred to the broad system of lending in use at the Surgeon-General's Library in Washington, and Mr. Cutter spoke of the same courtesies as extended by the library of the Department of Agriculture.

John Ashhurst, 3d, of the West Philadelphia branch of the Philadelphia Free Library, read a capital paper on "Children's rooms in free libraries," touching upon the need of such separate departments, the qualifications of the children's librarian, and the varying phases of library work with children, with a humor and a sincerity of sentiment that were equally delightful.\*

W. C. Lane, president of the A. L. A., was the last speaker, and presented a statement on the events leading to "The appointment of a Librarian of Congress," which was received with sustained interest and keen appreciation of the gratifying result achieved by the library profession in Mr. Putnam's nomination.† On motion of Mr. Hill, a committee was appointed to express the approval of the conference regarding Mr. Putnam's appointment. The chair

\* This will appear as one of the "Occasional papers" of the Pennsylvania Library Club.

† See L. J., March, p. 99-102.

named Messrs. Hill, Cutter, and Montgomery as such a committee, and the meeting was then adjourned.

The Saturday morning session was called to order at 10.45, W. C. Lane presiding. After the election of several persons to membership in the Pennsylvania Library Club the first subject for discussion, "The Sunday-school library," was introduced by F. N. Chamberlin, of the Library Bureau. The chief points brought out were that the public library and the Sunday-school library too seldom worked in harmony with each other, and that with the development of the public library the usefulness of the Sunday-school collection was seriously curtailed. It was suggested that the Sunday-school collection might well be managed as a branch of the public library, and that the organized associations for the promotion of Sunday-school work should endeavor to strengthen and improve the Sunday-school libraries, and develop them, in small communities, to serve as beginnings toward a public library. The generally inferior quality of the books in these collections was also referred to. An animated and prolonged discussion followed. Dr. Leipziger advocated the general transfer of Sunday-school libraries to public libraries; Mr. Weeks, of Newark, spoke of the Sunday-school methods of 35 years ago, and referred to the great good accomplished by a well-managed and attractive collection; and Mr. Warrington dissented from the suggestion that the Sunday-school library be abolished, as it occupied a field of great usefulness, and thought that it should furnish books of amusement as well as books of a purely religious character. Mr. Ayres, of Drew Theological Seminary, spoke of the difficulties in selecting books for such collection and of the frequent indifference or ignorance of the selectors; and Miss Adams, of Plainfield, advocated the control of Sunday-school libraries as branches of the public library. Indeed, it was evident that most of those present favored making the public library the centre of local book supply, at least for general and recreative reading, leaving the collection of theological and sectarian literature, Sunday-school helps, etc., to the Sunday-school collection. Other speakers were Dr. Richardson, Mr. Montgomery, Mr. Bostwick, and Mr. Hill, and on motion of Mr. Chamberlin, it was recommended that a committee, consisting of members of the three associations represented, be appointed to further consider the subject.

Dr. Edward Ellis Allen, principal of the Pennsylvania Institution for the Blind, then presented a most interesting paper on "Departments for the blind in free libraries." He referred to the several systems of type in use in books for the blind, and said that books in both the Moon and the point type were desirable, as the former was more easily used by the adult blind or those not specially trained, while the point type was in general use among students of blind institutions and the more intellectual blind. The work done by the Home Teaching Society for the Blind in Philadelphia was mentioned, and the need of em-

phasizing home use of such books was dwelt upon. "What is really needed is not so much reading-rooms as repository-rooms—repositories for books, not places where the blind are invited to read or to be read to, but rather collections of books, popular and well selected, which may be taken home and enjoyed in leisure and solitude. Lending libraries there must be, or the use of the books will be so small as to be discouraging, and the fact should be advertised that embossed books may be borrowed for the asking. The department should be not only a lending library, but also a sending library. No method can be so fruitful as to send teachers to search out the blind in their homes, teach them to read, and when necessary carry the books to them. This may not be legitimate library work, but it is the most effective way of reaching those for whom the department is intended. Reading-rooms alone will not begin to fulfil the mission of the libraries."

Mr. Thomson, commenting upon Dr. Allen's paper, spoke of the transfer to the Free Library of Philadelphia of the work formerly carried on by the Home Teaching Society, which still provides teachers, who work under the auspices of the library.\*

"Medical libraries" was the subject of a paper by Dr. William Browning, of Brooklyn, treasurer of the Association of Medical Libraries, which, in the writer's absence, was read by Mr. Thomson. Dr. Browning touched upon three points in the formation of medical libraries: the method of their establishment, the means of increasing their success, and the need of a central clearing-house or exchange for medical books. He thought that in larger cities—of about 100,000 inhabitants and over—the best means of insuring permanence and success was by the establishment of a separate library conducted by a medical organization, but that in smaller cities and towns a medical department of the public library was the most promising method. He urged the systematic collection of reports, transactions, local medical ephemera, public documents, and all available printed material dealing with medical subjects, and referred to the need of obtaining the active co-operation of at least one interested physician; and he outlined the benefits that might be derived from a central exchange, which should accumulate duplicates, gifts, transactions, etc., and bring them into general usefulness by general distribution. Adjournment was then taken.

The final session of the meeting was called to order at 8.45 Saturday evening, Dr. Morris Jastrow, of the University of Pennsylvania, presiding. Dr. Nolan presented a telegram, just received from Mr. Herbert Putnam, announcing his appointment to, and acceptance of, the office of Librarian of Congress, and it was voted that a response be at once despatched conveying to Mr. Putnam the congratulations of the tri-state meeting. Mr. Hill, as chairman

\* The establishment of the department for the blind in the Free Library of Philadelphia was noted in *L. J.*, Jan., p. 22.

of the committee on resolutions, submitted the following:

*"Whereas, The Pennsylvania Library Club, the New Jersey Library Association, and the New York Library Club, in joint convention at Atlantic City, have heard with much pleasure of the action of the President of the United States in appointing Mr. Herbert Putnam as Librarian of Congress; and*

*"Whereas, The members of these associations are of the opinion that by so doing the President has secured for the national library a man who is eminently qualified to perform the duties of that office, and one who has the good-will and respect of every member of the library profession;*

*"Be it resolved, That this convention extend to the President of the United States its hearty thanks for his broad-minded decision in this matter, and express to him the satisfaction which this appointment has given it."*

A second resolution was also submitted, as follows:

*"Resolved, That the sincere thanks of this convention be extended to the President of the American Library Association, Mr. W. C. Lane, for the exceedingly able and dignified manner in which he has presented the views of the library profession to the President of the United States and influential individuals in Washington in regard to the appointment of the Librarian of Congress."*

Both resolutions were unanimously carried.

Mr. H. J. Carr spoke briefly on the approaching conference of the A. L. A. at Atlanta in May, and urged the value of attendance at that meeting as an aid and inspiration in future work.

A paper on "Ancient coins as authenticating historical records," by Alexander E. Outerbridge, Jr., of Philadelphia, which had place in the program, was omitted owing to Mr. Outerbridge's absence, and Miss Beatrice Winsor, of Newark, read a paper on "The progress of the public library in Germany," the brevity of which was, she intimated, a direct indication of the extent of the subject. There were said to be at the present time over 130 volksbibliotheken in Germany, with 14,784,115 volumes, most of which were begun as free public reading-rooms and gradually extended to include the issue of books for family use. Their circulation is small, hardly averaging one book per inhabitant, and its cost is much lower than in American libraries, ranging from one to two-and-a-half cents as against our seven to thirteen cents per volume. The gradual awakening of Germany to a more effective public library development is, however, indicated in various directions, and "it will not be long before Germany takes her proper place, forming a triumvirate with England and America."

"New lamps for old" was the title of a short paper by Miss Helen E. Haines, of the LIBRARY JOURNAL, who had taken as her subject some of the older novels, apt to be forgotten in the modern rush for "something new," but no less permanent and of enduring charm; and who thought that an exchange now and then of the new lamps for the older ones might be well worth the making.

R. R. Bowker, of the LIBRARY JOURNAL, followed with an address, taking as his text "The library," and touching upon the varied and manifold activities that had developed since the first meeting of the A. L. A. in 1876; and

Melvil Dewey spoke effectively upon the work of the modern librarian in raising educational and artistic standards, and stemming the flood of trashy literature that is constantly poured out upon the public. This closed the meeting; the floor was promptly cleared, and a special Terpsichorean session followed. Many of the members departed on Sunday afternoon, but some spent the following Sunday, and it is rumored saw the sun shine on the board walk.

#### NEW YORK LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.

*President:* A. L. Peck, Public Library, Gloversville.

*Secretary:* W. R. Eastman, State Library, Albany.

*Treasurer:* J. N. Wing, Free Circulating Library, 226 W. 42d st., New York City.

#### OHIO LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.

*President:* Robinson Locke, Toledo.

*Secretary:* Charles Orr, Case Library, Cleveland.

*Treasurer:* Miss K. W. Sherwood, Public Library, Cincinnati.

*Fifth annual meeting:* Toledo, O., Aug. 9 and 10, 1899.

The executive committee of the Ohio Library Association has arranged for a special Ohio car from Cincinnati to Atlanta, conditional upon the departure of a party of 20. It is thought that the number of the Ohio delegation will even exceed this.

#### PENNSYLVANIA LIBRARY CLUB.

*President:* Dr. E. J. Nolan, Academy of Natural Sciences, Philadelphia.

*Secretary:* Miss Mary P. Farr, Philadelphia Normal School.

*Treasurer:* Miss Jean E. Graffen, Free Library of Philadelphia.

#### WESTERN PENNSYLVANIA LIBRARY CLUB.

*President:* Miss Helen Sperry, Carnegie Library, Homestead.

*Secretary-Treasurer:* Miss Mary F. Macrum, Carnegie Library, Pittsburgh.

#### VERMONT LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.

*President:* Miss S. C. Hagar, Fletcher Free Library, Burlington.

*Secretary:* Miss M. L. Titcomb, Goodrich Memorial Library, Newport.

*Treasurer:* E. F. Holbrook, Proctor.

#### WISCONSIN STATE LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.

*President:* Mrs. Charles S. Morris, Berlin.

*Secretary:* Miss Minnie M. Oakley, State Historical Society, Madison.

*Treasurer:* Miss Nellie C. Silverthorn, Public Library, Wausau.

#### NORTH WISCONSIN TRAVELLING LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.

*President:* Mrs. E. E. Vaughn, Ashland.

*Secretary and Treasurer:* Miss Janet Green, Vaughn Library, Ashland.

## Library Clubs.

### BAY PATH LIBRARY CLUB.

*President:* Miss Helen S. Carter, Leicester, Mass.

*Secretary:* C. H. Clark, West Brookfield, Mass.

*Treasurer:* Miss Nellie A. Cutter, Spencer, Mass.

### LIBRARY CLUB OF BUFFALO.

*President:* H. L. Elmendorf, Public Library.

*Secretary-Treasurer:* Miss Elizabeth D. Renninger, Catholic Institute.

The Library Club of Buffalo met Thursday evening, March 16, in the rooms of the Niagara Falls Public Library. In the absence of the president and vice-president, Miss Ella M. Edwards, the originator and moving spirit of the club, also chairman of the program committee, presided. After a few words of welcome from Mr. Peter A. Porter, president of the Niagara Falls board of trustees, the subject for the evening's discussion, "The library and the public schools," was presented to the club from the teacher's standpoint by Miss Druar, of Buffalo (see p. 143), and from the librarian's point of view by C. G. Leeland, who has been engaged in school work in connection with the Buffalo Public Library (see p. 150). At the conclusion of the papers the club was addressed by the mayor of Niagara Falls and by the superintendent of public schools. The remainder of the evening was spent in social enjoyment, and the meeting proved one of the most successful as well as the most pleasant that has yet taken place. ELIZABETH D. RENNINGER, *Secretary*.

### CHICAGO LIBRARY CLUB.

*President:* H. W. Gates, Hammond Library.

*Secretary:* C. B. Roden, Public Library, Chicago.

*Treasurer:* Miss M. E. Ahern, *Public Libraries*, 215 Madison street.

The regular monthly meeting of the Chicago Library Club took place at the Chicago Public Library on the evening of Thursday, March 9, with an exceptionally large attendance of members and friends, including many students from the library schools. The executive committee reported the following names of applicants for membership: Miss Mary E. Hawley, John Crerar Library; Miss Zoe Faddés, Chicago Normal School; Mr. L. L. Conant, Subscription News Co.; and Mr. Andrew Keogh, of Hayes, Cooke & Co. These were unanimously elected.

The program consisted of four short papers on topics of practical interest, presented by library assistants. The first of these, read by Miss Eleanor Roper, dealt exhaustively with the work of the accession department of the John Crerar Library, and bore abundant witness to the admirable and systematic organization of that library. Mr. J. Ritchie Patterson, superintendent of binding at the Chicago Public Library, gave a most interesting talk on book-binding, replete with instructive hints and sound advice based upon years of actual experience.

Miss C. D. Durkee followed with "A few notes on reference work at the Newberry Library," setting forth the lights and shadows of that exacting branch of library science in a bright and entertaining manner. Mr. Clarence A. Torrey then gave an account of the departmental libraries at the University of Chicago, their organization and administration. Mr. Torrey dealt with his subject in a manner which showed his familiarity with it, and held the interest of all present.

At the conclusion of the program the members proceeded on a tour of inspection through the Public Library building, under the guidance of Mr. Hild and assistants. All the rooms were opened and illuminated, and the beautiful decorations seemed to scintillate with added splendor in honor of the occasion.

C. B. RODEN, *Secretary*.

### NEW YORK LIBRARY CLUB.

*President:* Arthur E. Bostwick, Public Library, Brooklyn.

*Secretary:* Frank Weitenkampf, N. Y. Public Library.

*Treasurer:* Miss Theresa Hitchler, N. Y. Free Circulating Library.

### LIBRARY ASSOCIATION OF WASHINGTON CITY.

*President:* Dr. H. Carrington Bolton, Cosmos Club.

*Secretary:* W. L. Boyden, Librarian Supreme Council 33° A. A. Order of Scottish Rite.

*Treasurer:* T. L. Cole, Statute Law Book Co.

*Meetings:* Second Wednesday evening of each month.

The 38th regular meeting of the Library Association of Washington City was held at Columbian University March 8, 1899, with the president, Dr. H. C. Bolton, in the chair. The minutes of the previous meeting were read and approved. The executive committee reported the election to membership of Mr. Wilhelmus B. Bryan.

The first communication of the evening was by Dr. Herbert Friedenwald, on "The literature of Porto Rico," being a most interesting account of his opinions and observations on the literature of that island, as the result of a personal visit made there recently in the interests of the Library of Congress. A synopsis of Dr. Friedenwald's talk shows that there are three principal libraries in Porto Rico, that it is full of poets, and that poetry and history predominate. The first printing press was established about 1807; most of the literati have their books printed at their own expense and distributed among their friends, and are highly cultivated. The island abounds in newspapers, which are all organs of some political faction. A bibliography of Porto Rican literature, published in 1887, includes about 250 volumes, issued between the years 1831 and 1886. Dr. Friedenwald also exhibited specimens of the works of native authors and presses.

Mr. William L. Boyden then presented "A catalog card assorting device," giving a brief description of a method and means for the rapid assortment and distribution of catalog cards and index slips.



The third communication of the evening was by Mr. W. P. Cutter, on "The literature of tobacco." The first specific work on tobacco, said Mr. Cutter, was issued in 1572, when a French *abbé* treated the subject from a medicinal standpoint. Curiously enough, although Shakespeare's contemporaries frequently referred to tobacco in their works, yet he never mentioned the subject. About 1500 books have been issued on tobacco, and there are about 15,000 references to it in other productions. The collection of works on tobacco in the library of the Department of Agriculture is larger, by probably 10 times, than any other in existence.

The report of the committee on current events, owing to the lateness of the hour, was postponed until the next meeting.

WILLIAM L. BOYDEN, *Secretary*.

### Library Schools and Training Classes.

#### COLUMBIAN UNIVERSITY LIBRARY SCHOOL, WASHINGTON, D. C.

THE senior class began work in 1897, and with such veteran library workers to instruct them as A. R. Spofford, Henderson Presnell, and W. P. Cutter, have made commendable progress. This class includes 12 members, to whom bibliographies have been assigned as follows:

Shakespeare, Miss Bessie Beech.  
Gladstone, Miss N. B. Browne.  
Classification, Mrs. M. R. Fuller.  
Library shelving, Miss Godfrey.  
Incunabula, Miss J. R. Greene.  
Early printed books, Mrs. Happer.  
Bibliographies of illustrated works, Miss E. L. Ogden.  
Bismarck, Miss Sterns.  
The card catalog, Mrs. E. V. Triepel.  
Queen Victoria, Miss G. E. Upton.  
Bookbinding, Mrs. Waring.

Papers are to be prepared upon the following subjects:

Women as librarians, Miss Browne.  
Organization of libraries, Miss Greene.  
Charging systems, Mrs. Fuller.  
The Spanish war, Miss Godfrey.  
Library commissions, Miss Sterns.  
German libraries, Miss Neusbaum.  
Sunday opening, Mrs. Triepel.  
Reading for the young, Miss Upton.  
Children's libraries, Miss Wightman.  
Growth of public libraries, Mrs. Waring.

Several members of the class are already employed in libraries, and are said to be doing efficient work.

EMMA V. TRIEPEL.

#### NEW YORK STATE LIBRARY SCHOOL.

##### LOAN DEPARTMENT WORK.

The changes in this course, outlined in the September (1898) JOURNAL, have proved themselves wise. The class is furnished with a printed description, carefully worded and verified by the inventor or user, of the following typical loan systems, appropriate for various classes of libraries: the Browne and Schwartz

systems, and the systems used in the libraries of the Boston Athenæum, Boston Public, Columbia, Mercantile (N. Y.), New York State, New York State Capitol, Newark, Newton (Mass.), and Y. W. C. A. (Albany). Half an hour is spent in a quiz on the system already studied by the class and on the consideration of its strong and weak points, while the rest of the hour is given to important questions connected with this department. A problem assigned to the class in January was submitted March 1, "Prepare a bulletin for posting in the loan-room on the U. S. in world politics. The list must be limited to 20 books or articles." The result was so creditable to the class of 1900 that the collection of bulletins hung as an exhibit attracted much attention. Great variety and originality were shown, uniform excellence in making the titles beautifully clear and legible, and much skill in using flags, pictures, and maps as decoration, compelling the attention of readers without violating good taste or dignity. We would like to test the practical usefulness of these bulletins, and would be glad to loan single bulletins to public libraries making the request and willing to pay expenses.

##### NEWS.

Mr. C. A. Cutter gave his usual course of 10 lectures April 3 to 8 inclusive.

The school will make its library visit April 26 to May 5, including this year New York, Philadelphia, and Washington.

The summer course will be extended this year from five to six weeks, opening May 23 and closing July 3. A handbook of the summer course (N. Y. State Library handbook 14) has been issued, and can be had on application.

SALOME CUTLER FAIRCHILD.

#### PRATT INSTITUTE LIBRARY SCHOOL.

##### FIRST-YEAR WORK.

THE cataloging course has included, during the winter term, a series of seven lessons on the cataloging of government documents, the study of government check lists and indexes, and practice in assigning subject headings for government publications. In addition to these lessons two lectures on the subject were given by Miss Edith Fuller, of the Library of the Episcopal Theological Seminary, Cambridge, Mass.

The courses in English and American literature, deemed no longer necessary, have been discontinued, and a part of the time thus left open has been devoted to a study of contemporary fiction, an experiment which has proved quite successful, owing to the practical view of it taken by the class as well as to the efforts of the instructor. About 75 authors have been discussed, most of whom were not previously known to the class. Their works were considered from the literary standpoint, and also from the point of view of suitability for the public library, and their circulation in our own library and their frequency of appearance in the finding lists of other libraries were noted. The presence in the class of members of the

circulating staff was a help, and the lessons were, in turn, an assistance to them.

The selection of bibliographies and reading lists for the first-year class was as follows :

Reading list on Theodore Roosevelt.  
George junior republic.  
Debate on bipartisan police boards.  
Prison labor.  
Debate on influence of education on crime.  
Playgrounds for city children.  
Employers' liability.  
Nicaragua canal and Clayton-Bulwer treaty.  
Volunteers of America, and the separation from the Salvation Army.  
Helen Keller.  
History of the conceptions of time and space.  
Notable examples of heroism in the late war.  
Accounts of slavery, for children.  
Art and artists : list for children's room.  
Joan of Arc : list for children.  
Poems of events (continuation of subject given last year).  
List of good ghost stories.  
Short stories for easy reading in German.  
Sequels, continuations, and stories dealing with same sets of characters.

#### SECOND-YEAR WORK.

The lessons given to the second-year class on printing and bookbinding were especially valuable this year, as the hand-work gave the students the principles of both crafts and had the advantage over machine-work of being done slowly, so that each step could be observed and understood. Each course has been followed by an examination set by the lecturer. The course in Latin palæography given to the class at Columbia University by Dr. J. C. Egbert is an addition of this year's establishing. The two terms of lectures have been accompanied by a valuable bibliography of the subject and by work on the facsimiles of ms. in the university library. In Italian the class have translated *Le Abbreviature della Lingua Latina* of Paoli.

The subjects selected for theses by this class are as follows :

European collections of books brought to this country within the past 20 years.  
Manuscript discoveries of the last 10 years.  
Existing schools and courses of palæography.  
Confiscation of monastery libraries in Italy.

And the list-work assigned is as follows :  
Index to illustrations of printers' marks.  
Index to facsimiles, outside of collections, useful in the study of palæography.  
Index to illustrations of bookbinding.  
Italian vocabulary of terms in bibliography and library economy.

MARY W. PLUMMER, *Director*.

#### UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS STATE LIBRARY SCHOOL.

THE interest of the Library School is centred now in its travelling library. This is not the first library to travel in Illinois, but it is planned on somewhat different lines from the others. For years individual county superintendents

have secured books through gifts or subscriptions, and have circulated them among the schools in their districts. The club women in certain counties have also been active, and collections of books are now circulated in Kane, Bureau and Ford counties, but they are for the most part gifts, and therefore limited in selection. There is a large proportion of periodicals and paper bound books, and the circulation is generally through the schools. There are also collections of books circulating among university extension centres and philanthropic institutions. The Library School has made a careful selection of subjects, has bought new books in good editions, and will place the collection in a post office or general store. The work of the school interested the Champaign Social Science Club to promise a second library for Champaign County. The school was asked to prepare lists for selection of books and to care for and circulate the library. These libraries will be given into the care of the State Library Commission as soon as one exists.

The seniors are gaining much practical experience from their public library work at Urbana. Each student is responsible for advertising the library during her attendance, and there is considerable rivalry in the matter of bulletins. In February, bulletins were displayed for St. Valentine's day and for Washington's birthday. In March a portrait bulletin was made for five artists whose birthdays occurred in that month. In April a bird bulletin and an animal bulletin will appear. In the meantime one of the students, who is an experienced teacher, is preparing annotated lists of books for the school grades.

The influence of the meeting of the Illinois State Library Association in February is still felt in the added enthusiasm with which the students undertake their work since meeting and hearing the prominent librarians in the State and realizing the future possibilities of the profession.

We are eagerly anticipating the third week in May, when Mr. Dewey and Mr. Thwaites will visit the university on the occasion of our annual High School Conference.

KATHARINE L. SHARP, *Director*.

### Library Economy and History.

#### GENERAL.

ACCOUNT of the safeguarded open-access system in public lending libraries ; prepared and circulated by the librarians in charge of English open-access public libraries. London, 1899. 12 p. D.

This brochure, which is signed by 12 English librarians, including Messrs. Brown, Duckworth, and Jast, is the latest polemic in the warfare between the English adherents of open shelves and their opponents. It is a summary and apparently fair review of the objections to the free-access system, presenting the means by which these objections may be overcome—by well-arranged stacks, the use of labels of varying colors for different classes of books, a thor-

oughly safeguarded system of entrance and egress, etc. There is a diagram of the arrangement of the Croydon Public Library; and appended is an itemized table "showing results of the 'safeguarded' open-access system, from statistics supplied by the various libraries." The libraries represented are those of Bourne-mouth, Brighouse, Clerkenwell, Croydon, Darwen, Hornsey, Huddersfield, Kettering, Kingston, Rothwell, Southport, Widnes, and Worcester.

**BALLINGER, J:** The public libraries and the schools: an experiment; School children in the public libraries: a sequel—two papers read before the Library Association. London, H. Sotheran & Co., 1899. 20 p. O.

An interesting statement of the various tentative efforts toward library work with the schools made by English libraries, and of the special and successful advances in this direction made in the Cardiff Public Library under Mr. Ballinger's care. While the methods set forth have no special novelty to American librarians they are no less interesting, and it is gratifying to note that an appreciation of the importance of co-operative school and library work is developing in English libraries.

**BOLTON, C: Knowles.** The profession of librarian. (*In Youth's Companion*, Mr. 9, 1899.) 2½ col.

A short sketch of the scope and variety of a librarian's work, introducing numerous "humors and blunders." It may be noted that Mr. Bolton errs in mentioning the English library law of 1850 as "the beginning of the modern public library," for the Massachusetts act for the establishment and maintenance of the Boston Public Library was passed in 1848 and the New Hampshire library law in 1849.

THE INSTITUT INTERNATIONAL DE BIBLIOGRAPHIE of Brussels has issued fasc. 5-6 of its *Bulletin* for 1898. It contains a paper by Charles Didier on "La revue à découper," urging that articles in scientific periodicals, reviews, etc., be so printed and arranged that they may easily be removed for filing without mutilating other contributions; and an article by Signora Sacconi-Ricci, "Sur la numération progressive des sujets dans les catalogues par matières," outlining a method of classification devised by her which is intended to combine the decimal feature with an alphabetic arrangement.

THE *Library Association Record* for March contains an historical "Account of Marsh's Library, Dublin," by Rev. Newport J. D. White, and two good short papers on "The public library lectures," by Peter Cowell, and "The library and the school," by W. E. A. Axon.

**OGLE, J: J.** The connection between the public library and the public elementary schools: a report based on an inquiry addressed to the free public libraries of England and Wales

and certain American public libraries. 38 p. O.

A "separate" of the report prepared by Mr. Ogle for presentation before the L. A. U. K. Although much that it chronicles is a twice-told tale to American librarians, the report is suggestive and interesting in its summary of the steps taken in English libraries for closer relations with the schools. The American libraries especially mentioned in this connection are those of Worcester, Springfield, Detroit, Milwaukee, St. Louis, Cleveland, Hartford, and Utica. Appended is a "Select list of papers bearing on the subject," including 91 entries, of which 77 refer to the *LIBRARY JOURNAL*.

**PENNSYLVANIA LIBRARY CLUB.** Occasional papers, nos. 4-6, January-March, 1899. 3 nos. O.

These well-printed and attractive publications contain the following papers: no. 4, The German side of Pennsylvania history, by Joseph G. Rosengarten; no. 5, The applied use of photography to the purposes of free libraries, by John Ashhurst, 3d; no. 6, College and university libraries, by Ernest C. Richardson, Ph.D. Each of these papers had been previously presented at a meeting of the club.

#### LOCAL.

*Atlanta (Ga.) Y. M. L. A.* On March 2 the finance committee of the city council voted unanimously to report in favor of accepting Mr. Carnegie's offer of \$100,000 for the establishment of a free public library, and to recommend that the Young Men's Library be the nucleus of the proposed library, and that an annual appropriation of \$5000 be made for library maintenance. On March 6 the committee report was adopted by the city council, and the further details of acceptance were carried through without obstacle. The arrangement proposed by the library authorities and accepted by the finance committee provides for the transfer to the city of the site and building now occupied by the library, valued at \$50,000, the books, furniture, etc., contained therein, valued at \$35,000, and the invested funds and securities of the association, valued at about \$11,500; the transfer to be made on condition that the property or its proceeds, if sold, "shall be used for free public library purposes forever"; that the city shall appropriate each year for the support of the library "not less than \$5000, exclusive of interest from such invested funds as may be under the control of the trustees"; that the library be managed by a board of 12 trustees, of whom six shall be nominated by the association, the others to be elected by the city council from the city at large, these trustees to be at first elected two for six years, two for five years, in diminishing ratio until a one-year term is reached, the trustees afterwards elected to serve for six years. If the city shall fail to fulfil the conditions named, the property shall revert to the Young Men's Library Association; but if at the end of six years all conditions are fulfilled and the necessary legislation obtained,

all reversionary rights of the association in the transferred property, together with the right of nomination of trustees, shall cease, "and the whole of the property, together with the rights thereof, will vest absolutely in the city of Atlanta."

*Brockton (Mass.) P. L.* (Rpt. — year ending Nov. 30, '98.) Added 1395; total 27,605. Issued, home use 115,430; ref. use 3403 (fict. 53.35 %; juv. fict. 21.04 %); school use 2073. New cardholders 2454; total cardholders 11,281. Receipts \$8290.53; expenses, \$8289.74.

Mr. Moulton gives an interesting summary of the work of an unusually successful year. The library has been kept before the public by weekly lists of new books in the local press, lists on timely topics and on special subjects, such as leather and shoe manufacture, standard fiction, etc., and lists for local study clubs, high-school classes, etc. "As one means of bringing the library more before the people, exhibitions of pictures, either owned by the library or loaned to it, will be held. The library has subscribed to the Massachusetts Library Art Club, and through this club will get collections of pictures for exhibition. In November about 100 photographs of the Caucasus were exhibited in the reading-room. The exhibition was a marked success, and many people, in order to see the pictures, visited the reading-room for the first time. The high-school classes in geology came with their instructor on several mornings before the library was opened to study the many views of glaciers.

"Particular attention has been paid to enlarging the reference side of the library, and there are now on the open shelves in the reference-room about 1000 volumes. The librarian has special charge of the reference-room, and gives his personal attention to the readers.

"A special effort has been made to make the branch libraries at Campello and Montello more attractive and more useful. Periodicals that appeal particularly to women have been added, and tables have been bought and reserved for their use. Bulletin-boards, on which are posted lists of the new books and other items of library news, have been placed in these rooms, and more printed catalogs have been provided. Pictures from the illustrated papers and maps illustrating current events have been displayed, and have added to the cheerfulness of the rooms."

The library continues its work for 1899 under improved conditions, as the city council has increased the library appropriation by about \$1000. The publication of a monthly bulletin has also been authorized. In the lack of space for a children's room a children's corner has been arranged at one end of the delivery-room, where several hundred volumes of children's books are placed on open shelves. These are constantly changed, so that eventually all the children's books are thus made accessible. In February an exhibition of fine photographs of Florence was held, which was largely attended; this was succeeded by an exhibition of photographs of colonial houses and furniture.

*Brooklyn (N. Y.) P. L.* The library authorities are arranging to lease the private residence known as the "Brevoort mansion," at 26 Brevoort place, for use as a central library building for a term of three years, at \$3000 a year. Many of the books are already stored in the house. It is planned to establish two new branches, to be known as the South and East branches respectively; the former will be at 48th street and Fourth avenue, the latter at 29 Pennsylvania avenue.

*Brooklyn, N. Y. Union for Christian Work F. L.* (32d rpt. — year ending Dec. 31, '98.) Added 2947; total 42,000. Issued, home use 202,919; ref. use 4933. New registration 2240; total registration 25,505. Receipts \$8391.81; expenses \$7828.67.

*Burlington (Ia.) F. P. L.* (Rpt. — 18 months ending Dec. 31, '98.) Added 581; total 17,200. Issued, home use 72,151 (fict. 58.8 %; juv. 20.8 %); reading-room attendance 17,130. New cards issued 812; cards in use 4220.

The report is naturally largely concerned with the handsome new library building, which was dedicated in June, 1898, and which cost over \$60,000.

*Buffalo (N. Y.) P. L.* (2d rpt. — year ending Dec. 31, '98.) Added 21,687; total 123,988; lost 39. Issued, home use 768,028 (fict. incl. juv. .659 %), of which 296,028 were from the open-shelf department; in the children's room 129,587 v. were issued. No statistics of reference use are kept, but 35,811 v. were brought from the stack for consultation by students; there are now 2066 v. in this department. New registration 18,389; total cards in force 49,814. Receipts \$110,229.44; expenses \$109,607.84.

The report gives an interesting review of large and varied activities during the first full year of the library's existence as a free institution.

The open-shelf department has proved a valuable feature and the most important factor in circulation. There were 15,713 v. in this department at the close of the year, of which a small percentage were new books temporarily displayed, and the circulation exceeded the delivery-counter issue by 27,146. "The average number of attendants in the open-shelf department was three. The average number of attendants at the delivery-counter was 12, which at an average salary, \$420 a year, shows a saving of \$3780 in favor of the open shelves. The percentage of fiction drawn from the open shelves is two per cent. greater than from the delivery-counter, and four per cent. greater than the general percentage of the circulation of the entire library. This is because all the new novels, with other new books, are, for a short time, put into a special case in this room." A selection of German books has been added to the department, and one case is devoted to special topics. In this, selections of books on such subjects as China and the powers, with maps, the Spanish-American war, the navy and naval warfare, Gladstone, Bismarck, the English in the Soudan, have been presented at

appropriate times. "These collections have numbered from 25 to 150 volumes each. In every instance the books have been almost immediately drawn, and the difficulty has been to supply the demand of the awakened interest in the subject. The department is a great resource to people who cannot get the special books they want at the delivery-counter. The assistant then goes with the borrower to the adjoining open shelves and shows where books on the same subject are arranged. It is also a great means of bettering the class of reading by placing the best books where people can handle them, and letting good literature recommend itself. The open-shelf room also serves as the main reading-room and is well filled from morning till night every day. The privileges of the open-shelf room in no way interfere with the custom of permitting those who wish to examine the entire collection in the main book-stack."

Of losses of books, in addition to those shown in the charging records, Mr. Elmendorf says: "The reference-books on open shelves are checked every month. At the last inventory nine volumes were unaccounted for. Four of these have probably been stolen and five are thought to be merely misplaced. The complete inventory of the children's department shows 228 volumes missing. These are not deducted from the totals, but carried on a missing list until next year. Many children's books were undoubtedly stolen during the rush of the early days of the library's opening and before the turnstiles were put in, compelling all children going out to pass the charging-desk where their books are examined."

In the cataloging department an author list and card catalog of German books have been made, the shelf list of fiction has been remade and Cutter numbers assigned, a biography finding list has been prepared, a dictionary catalog begun, and various special lists made. "What amounts to the time of one assistant is given by the catalog department for work in the reference-room with great benefit to both departments. The catalogers learn the wants of the public and how to make the library available, and greatly aid the reference librarian by their knowledge of the library, its catalogs and reference lists."

The work with the schools, noted in the report, is more fully treated elsewhere in this issue (*see p. 150*). 40 travelling libraries, numbering 1509 v., have been sent to teachers, literary clubs, chapter houses, and social settlements, and the circulation reported is 3752.

Three new delivery stations, making a total of seven, were established during the year.

*Cleveland, O. Case L.* An interesting book-plate exhibit, chiefly representative of the work of E. D. French, was opened at the Case Library early in March. The collection is owned by Mr. Paul Lemperly, of Cleveland.

*Denver (Col.) P. L.* The matter of a building for the two consolidated libraries of Denver was taken up by the library board on March 15, when it was voted to ask the Prudential Com-

pany to erect a suitable building at 15th and Court streets, to be leased by the library board for five years at a rental of 5% of net valuation. It was also voted that the board correspond with the leading libraries of the country to decide the question of adopting the open-shelf system in the new library.

*Dover (N. H.) P. L.* (16th rpt.—year ending Dec. 31, '98.) Added 1056; total 23,714. Issued, home use 67,109 (fict. 47%; juv. 19%; periodicals 11%); reading-room attendance 23,811, of which 916 represents Sunday attendance. New registration 334; total registration 8695. Receipts \$3925.12; expenses \$3914.38.

The circulation is less by over 6000 than the issue of last year. "The largest cause of the decrease is remote but unmistakable. From the time of the destruction of the *Maine* in Havana harbor the people of our city devoted themselves to newspapers and ceased to read books."

*Georgia Historical Society, Savannah.* The librarian's report for 1898 shows additions of 400 v.; total 22,121. Issued to members 9932; visitors 22,542.

*Germantown, Phila. Friends' F. L.* (Rpt., 1898.) Added 370; total "about 19,000." Issued, home use 12,047; visitors 21,437. New borrowers 370; total cards issued 1262.

The completion of the new catalog is the chief event of the year. Appended is a "List of books added during 1897 and 1898."

*Grand Rapids (Mich.) P. L.* (Rpt.—year ending Aug. 31, '98.) Added, circulating dept. and branches 2645; total 35,815; issued, home use 216,593; cards in use 12,668. Added, ref. dept. 500; total 13,013; issued from stacks 1672; no. readers 41,803.

The librarian records a decided advance in every department. A second supplement to the catalog has been issued, containing a useful "Special days" list, intended specially for teachers; the circulation of mounted pictures and photographs has been begun; the branch libraries established in the 34 public schools have been continued and their work developed; and the circulation of magazines, the two-book system, and Sunday opening have been introduced. Longer hours of opening and more prompt purchase of books are recommended.

*Groton, Ct. Bill Memorial L.* The library has been reorganized, the books having been reclassified on the decimal system, and a card catalog and card shelf list made. The work was done by Miss Alice M. Richardson and Miss Marion E. Newman, of New London, Ct., and was finished in February.

*Jersey City (N. J.) F. P. L.* (13th rpt.—year ending Dec. 1, '98.) Added 6773; total 63,980. Issued, home use 406,915 (fict. 51.68%; juv. fict. 26.17%); ref. use 63,230; reading-room attendance 89,782. New registration 2827; total registration 36,102. Receipts \$55,031.18; expenses \$42,262.65.

From the 15 delivery stations 243,363 v. were issued, or 60% of the whole home circulation,

Co-operation with the schools is "becoming more intimate each year, and the school classic system is assuming large proportions and continues to be well appreciated."

*Kansas State L.* The bill establishing a travelling library department in the state library was passed on March 3.

*Leavenworth, Kan.* The city council decided on March 15 to submit to the voters, at the spring election early in April, the proposition to levy a tax for a public library. This action was taken upon a petition signed by 58 property owners, who asked that the question be submitted to vote.

*Massachusetts State L., Boston.* (Rpt. — year ending Sept. 30, '98.) Added 4335 v., 5139 pm., at a cost of \$8230 14. Appended to the report are the list of accessions for the year covered, and the special bulletin "Bibliography of works on taxation," published in January, 1898.

*Minnesota Hist. Soc. L., St. Paul.* (10th biennial rpt., two years ending Jan. 1, '99.) Added 2534; total 62,446. The collection of Minnesota newspapers is an important feature of the library, and the Minnesota department, which fills five large cases and includes eight quarto scrap-books, is of special fulness and value. There has been a steady increase in the use of the library.

*Mount Vernon, Ill.* At a meeting of the city council on March 18 an ordinance was passed providing for the establishment of a free library and reading-room, to be maintained by a two-mill tax levied on each dollar's worth of property. A board of nine directors was appointed.

*Nashua (N. H.) P. L.* The report of the librarian for the year ending Dec. 31, 1898, gives the following facts: Added 1326; total 16,987. Issued, home and school use 61,409; lib. use 1247. New cards issued 503. Visitors to reading-room 15,513.

*New Jersey State L.* (Rpt. — year ending Oct. 31, '98.) Added 2284; total 51,270. "The attendance of the pupils of the state and city schools has averaged 155 per week, with the use of 200 books weekly, through the nine months of the school year." The travelling library bill passed in 1897, but inoperative for lack of appropriation, is referred to, with the statement that the state library has not a sufficient book fund to supply volumes for such a system.

*New York F. C. L.* (19th rpt. — year ending Dec. 31, '98.) Added 22,815; total 135,262, divided among the 10 libraries and the travelling library department. Issued 1,241,042, of which 112,311 were drawn for hall use (fict. 38%; juv. fict. 29%). Sunday circulation 81,134; reading-room attendance 275,123. New cards issued 19,081; total registration 120,314. Receipts \$96,024.20, of which \$8000 belongs in the permanent fund; expenses \$79,720.93.

Mr. Bostwick says: "Another very successful year in the history of our library has just

closed — a year that brings our circulation past the million mark for the first time, and advances it nearly a quarter of the way toward the second million. We have opened a new branch library, erected our finest building to house one of the recently established branches, fitted up new quarters for another, extended the two-book system to all the branches, and the open-shelf system to nearly all, and established a class of apprentices, besides making needed repairs and improvements at almost all the branches, especially those where the introduction of the open-shelf plan has necessitated a rearrangement of desk and shelving."

The open-shelf system, introduced in 1897 at the Yorkville branch, is now in use in eight of the 10 branches and has proved an assured success.

"The formation of an apprentice class in February, 1898, has led to an appreciable improvement in the grade of new assistants, and to greater ease and certainty in their selection. On receipt of an application for employment, the applicant is now asked to sign a request for admission to the class, promising to give to the library 45 hours a week, in return for training in library work and for the chance of obtaining a permanent position. After a few weeks of preliminary instruction the apprentice goes about from branch to branch, doing her share of the regular work, becoming familiar with the customs of each locality, and giving each librarian in charge an opportunity to observe her work. When a paid substitute is employed she is taken from the apprentices, and when a vacancy in the force is to be filled the best equipped of the class is chosen to fill it." Of 38 who have been members of this class 10 have been added to the regular library force.

More room is needed at several branches, and the adoption of the full open-shelf system at the Bond street and Bruce libraries will necessitate alteration and extension. The use of bulletins and public signs is recommended as a means of bringing knowledge of the library to the public, and it is thought "especially desirable to have the circulating department on the ground floor and in plain view from the street through a large window. Recently cards and placards bearing a list of the addresses of all our libraries have been sent to hotels in the city."

The work of the various branches is presented in extracts from the reports of the librarians-in-charge, which reveal a remarkable degree of interest, energy, and activity. The new building of the Bloomingdale branch, opened Nov. 1, is described, and the work of the travelling library department, which includes "home libraries," and reaches also fire-engine houses, etc., is reviewed.

*New York Mercantile L.* (78th rpt., 1898.) Added 5414; total 262,762. Issued, home use 177,860 (Eng. fict. 54.13%); ref. use 41,580. Reading-room attendance 26,800. Membership 5170. Receipts \$31,124.76; expenses \$26,620.71.

*N. Y. P. L.—Astor, Lenox, and Tilden foundations.* On March 17 the city board of estimate and apportionment authorized the bond issue of \$500,000, the proceeds of which will be used for the removal of the old reservoir at 42d street and 5th avenue and the construction of foundations for the new library building. The issue was approved by the aldermen on April 4. Operations will be begun as soon as bonds are sold, probably about June 1.

In view of the authorization of the appropriation by the board of estimate, and the indications that "a new stage in the development of the library may be said to have been reached," the executive committee of the board of trustees presents a summarized historical report of what has been accomplished in the two years past, which is printed in the March number of the library *Bulletin*. After touching upon the events following the consolidation, the selection of building plans, etc., the committee takes up the specific growth of the several departments of the library.

"Since July 1, 1896, there have been added to the library about 80,000 volumes and 80,000 pamphlets, and by the end of the present fiscal year the library, including the Ford collection, will contain about 465,000 volumes and 180,000 pamphlets. The annual accessions have been at the rate of about 26,000 volumes and 25,000 pamphlets. The annual accessions of the Boston Public Library during the same period have been about 30,000 a year, and of the British Museum about 28,000 a year; but these figures include both books and pamphlets, so that the New York Public Library has in all probability been growing far more rapidly than any library in the world. As regards the character of this increase, in so far as purchases are concerned, the established lines have been adhered to of creating a general reference library at the Astor, and improving and adding to the valuable collections relating to American history, commenced by Mr. Lenox; so that the increase in the New York Public Library has not only been great in numbers, but the standard has been entirely preserved."

The changes made to facilitate public use have included extension of hours of opening from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m.; the establishment of open reference shelves; the display of new books for examination; a large extension of the periodical reading-room space; installation of book lifts; the numbering of seats in the reading-room, as is done in the British Museum; the preparation of a subject card catalog; the appointment of a special information attendant in charge of the open shelves; the installation of a bindery; and the removal of suitable duplicates to form a nucleus for the future circulating department of the library. Regarding night opening, it is pointed out that the present work of cataloging and classification of accumulated material exhausts the present income of the library, and that the extra cost of evening opening (estimated at \$15,000 for both Astor and Lenox) cannot yet be undertaken.

The number of readers has largely increased "In the two libraries in 1894 there were about 66,500 readers, who called for 243,700 books.

In 1898 there were 106,000 readers, who called for 367,800 books, besides making very extensive use of the open reference shelves. Increase of readers is now necessarily checked, because no further room can be provided for them, the limit of accommodation in the present building being exhausted."

*New York University Club L.* (Rpt. — year ending Feb. 28, '99.) Added 1172; total 15,836. The chief accessions of the year are reviewed.

*Newark (N. J.) F. P. L.* The library has issued in a neat pamphlet the "Programme and addresses" at the laying of the corner-stone of the new library building, Jan. 26, 1899. These include addresses by Mgr. Doane, of St. Patrick's Cathedral, Newark, W: T. Hunt, of the Newark *Sunday Call*, and Hon. Cortlandt Parker.

*Newburgh (N. Y.) F. L.* (Rpt. — year ending June 30, '98; in 34th rpt. of board of education, p. 37-39.) Added 959; total 22,380. Issued 74,088.

The preparation of the new card catalog, completed during the year, gave opportunity for the weeding out of duplicate and undesirable books, 176 v. having been discarded and 1600 stored for disposal.

*Newburyport (Mass.) P. L.* The report of the librarian for 1898, recently presented, gives the following facts: Added 750; total 33,222. Issued, home use 42,644, as against 40,644 in 1887. New borrowers 559; total borrowers 6734.

Work on the new catalog, though interrupted for about four months, is now progressing well, and will, it is thought, be completed in about a year. The establishment of a reference library is urgently needed.

*Norfolk (Va.) P. L.* The librarian's report for 1898 shows additions of 806 v.; total not stated. Issued 21,160 (fict. 17,728); visitors 48,221. A general catalog has been completed, and a duplicate catalog of fiction issued for the use of members.

*Northampton, Mass. Forbes L.* (4th rpt. — year ending Nov. 30, '98.) Added 8922; total 61,575. Issued, home use 55,967 (fict. 53.2 %); lib. use 10,560. New registration 820; total registration in force 3671. Current expenses \$8629.28.

Only 18.4 per cent. of the 61,575 volumes are classified and cataloged, and Mr. Cutter presents the need of appropriation for carrying on and completing this work. He says: "I do not know of any other library which circulates all of its books while four-fifths of them are uncataloged. I am certain that no library which tried the experiment would doubt the utility and economy of a catalog. Similarly many cataloged libraries get along without classification or with a very crude classification, but no one who has been in a well-classified library will willingly dispense with full and careful classing." Owing to the lack of funds for an adequate force many details of the library's work have suffered, though the class of pupil assistants

established during the year has given some relief. Work with the schools has consisted chiefly in "letting teachers have as many books as they want for their classes, freely lending photographs (mounted or unmounted) to the art teacher for use in the schools, letting scholars have all the books they want for study (not exceeding 10), and opening a children's room with free access to the shelves. A room has been especially fitted up for children with a kindergarten table and one of ordinary height. On the wall shelves are 1623 volumes, to which the children have free access. They enjoy having a room to themselves, and crowd it after school. They are orderly without an attendant, but I regret that our force is not large enough to permit our having one person present who should give them assistance, win their regard, and direct their reading."

*Oak Park, Ill. Scoville Institute L.* An interesting and ingenious exhibit and prize contest combined was recently opened in the children's room of the library. It consisted of pictures of authors and illustrations from books, each of which were numbered, prizes being offered to the boys and girls submitting before a given date the most correct lists of the authors and titles of the books to which the illustrations belonged and of the works by the authors whose pictures were displayed, with the library call numbers attached. The prizes were, first, a copy of the new illustrated edition of "Pilgrim's progress," and second, Field's "Lullaby land." The competition was open to any child in the Oak Park schools enrolled or applying for enrolment at the library. An attendant was in the room during the competition, specially charged with explaining the use of the catalog. The purpose of the exhibition was twofold. Miss Marvin writes: "We mean that they shall all know how to use the catalog, and that they shall become critical of illustrations. We hope also by registering the ages of the children to convince adult doubters that children under 10 years of age *do* read intelligently. Already our catalog cards are showing signs of wear, and nearly every book on the shelves in our children's room has been pulled out and examined, with a view to placing illustrations. We find that a great number of the children know the picture and the story, but have not the least idea of author or title. We have put our catalog trays out on the tables in the children's room (we have a special card catalog for this room). There are 192 pictures displayed. Those of the authors are from the 'Century gallery' and from booksellers' catalogs, the illustrations are from catalogs and from our worn-out books. All have been trimmed and mounted on gray bristol board, except, of course, those from the 'Century gallery.' We are fast learning how to make a catalog for children, and we will benefit by the perfectly frank criticism received. One day one of our brightest fourth-grade boys rushed in to tell me that our catalog said that Mark Twain had written only one book, that being called 'Clemens,' and that *he* knew better." The library has an age limit of 10

years, but Miss Marvin says: "A little German boy of seven and a half has guessed 109 pictures and has looked up all the call numbers by himself. There is a wild demand for the books that fit the 'exciting' pictures."

*Pennsylvania, lib. legislation.* On March 28 two bills relating to libraries were introduced into the state senate: one conferring upon the second and third class cities the right now enjoyed by first-class cities to levy a tax for the establishment and maintenance of free libraries, and the other establishing a state library commission for the support of a travelling library system.

*Portland (Ore.) L. A.* (35th rpt., 1898.) Added 1276; total 20,024. Issued 44,393 (fict. and juv. 70.7 %); no. visitors 59,060. Membership 917, of which 229 were student members, *i. e.*, scholars in the public and private schools of the city, admitted at the special rate of \$1 per year, the regular dues being \$5. The establishment of this special membership rate has proved much appreciated. The library now conducts a small apprentice class, to prepare students for practical work in the different departments. There are now three members of the class, and several applications are on file; vacancies in the force will be filled from members of this class.

*Richfield Springs, N. Y.* The village board has passed a resolution recommending the establishment of a public library, and has appointed a board of trustees to take action in the matter. It is not expected to raise money by tax, but to secure a sufficient sum by subscriptions and other means.

*St. Joseph (Mo.) P. L.* The general school observance of Arbor day, on April 6, was aided by the library by the preparation of a full list of books, poems, and magazine articles dealing with trees and flowers, which appeared in the local papers a fortnight before the time of the Arbor day ceremonies.

*Washington, D. C. Office of Documents.* A civil service examination for the position of public document cataloger in the office of Superintendent of Documents, at a salary of \$3 per diem, was held on April 12.

*Washington, D. C. L. of Congress.* Herbert Putnam took the oath of office as Librarian of Congress on April 5, and at once entered upon the discharge of his duties.

Orville J. Victor, of New Jersey, who was mentioned as one of the candidates to succeed the late John Russell Young, has offered to give to the Library of Congress his voluminous collection of clippings, notes, and similar material relating to the civil war. Mr. Victor, who is author of a "History of the southern rebellion," has for years collected newspaper clippings, manuscripts, and documents upon the subject, and he arranged with the late Mr. Young to put this material at the service of the Congressional Library for the completion of its records, as desired.



*Washington (D. C.) P. L.* The diverging actions of the Senate and House regarding the site for the proposed Carnegie Library building were brought into accord on March 4 by the passage of a modified bill which was promptly signed by the President. The bill passed by the Senate on Feb. 25 provided for the appropriation of \$250,000 for the purchase of a site; that passed by the House on Feb. 28 authorized the location of the library in Mount Vernon square. Conferees were then appointed to harmonize the views of the two houses, and the Senate finally receded from its amendment and agreed to the House bill. The measure, as it became a law, provides for a building commission, etc., as in the Senate bill, but specifies that the building "be erected upon Mount Vernon square, in the city of Washington." The library also received, in addition to its usual allowance, an appropriation of \$600 for an assistant librarian for evening service, and \$2000 for the purchase of books and magazines. In the deficiency appropriation bill it is provided that the unused portion of the appropriation made for salaries of librarian, first and second assistant librarians for the fiscal year 1899 be made applicable for the purpose of employing necessary temporary assistance in the conduct of the library for the current year.

On March 13 Mr. Carnegie wrote to express gratification at the passage of the site bill and to reaffirm his wish that the library commission should assume the entire responsibility for the work. He said: "I leave everything with those who have shown by their devotion to the library cause that their best heart is in the work. Upon them rests the responsibility. I have instructed the Carnegie Steel Company, Pittsburgh, to honor the drafts made by the proper authorities of the library to the extent of \$250,000, to be drawn as needed to meet expenditures upon the library, and nothing further is needed. I always ask for competitive plans and give prizes for second and third. The first gets the work. The first consideration is suitability for library operations. Many fine buildings are very poor libraries—such a failure as that of Boston should be remembered. There are others not much better. I hope the best building for a library will be selected. Of course I shall be glad to advise with you and your committee upon selection of plan if requested, but please understand the whole responsibility remains with yourselves. My province is to provide funds—a very great privilege; to your committee we look to do the work."

*Westfield (Mass.) F. P. L.* The new building in which is housed the athenæum and free public library was opened to the public on the afternoon of March 6, and dedicatory exercises were held in the evening of the same day. The building is an old mansion, centrally located, which has been renovated and altered for library purposes. It has two entrances; the main entrance on Court street opens into a spacious hall, which is well lighted from the reading-room, the latter being on the left of the main

entrance, and occupying the entire west side of the main building. This room is 40 by 16 feet, and lighted by six windows. A basket lift connects the reading-room with the librarian's desk on the second floor. The reference-room, 16 by 16 feet, is at the right of the entrance. The room for the children leads from the Elm street entrance on the first floor, and is of the same size as the reference-room. In the L part of the building on the first floor are a women's dressing-room and lavatory, and a room 16 feet square to be used for meetings of the officers and committees of the athenæum.

A handsome staircase in ash and oak leads to the main library-room, 40 feet square, divided into delivery-room and stack-room, and occupying the entire space in the second story of the main building. The librarian's desk is directly opposite the stairway. The stack-room is well lighted by a dozen large windows, and the public will have direct access to the shelves. In the L part of the second story is a room that will be devoted to the museum. A room in the attic has been set aside for newspaper files and records seldom consulted. In the basement a room has been reserved for bicycles, and also a work-room, where books will be unpacked. A lift from this room goes to the second story. The basement also contains the men's toilet-room, and the hot-water system of heating by direct radiation.

At the dedicatory exercises the president of the athenæum presented the privileges of the building to the town, and reviewed the history of the library since its organization as a department of the athenæum in 1859. The library was made free in 1895.

*Winthrop (Mass.) P. L.* (14th rpt.—year ending Jan. 1, '99.) Added 443; total 5318. Issued, home use 21,071. New cards issued 1155; total cards issued 2743. Receipts \$1259.98; expenses \$1132.45.

The greater part of the report is devoted to a consideration of the plans for the new library building now nearly completed.

*Worcester, Mass., Libraries of.* "Public libraries of Worcester" is the title of a well-printed illustrated pamphlet by S. S. Green, reprinted from "The Worcester of 1898." The Public Library, Library of American Antiquarian Society, and other libraries of the city are briefly described.

*Worcester (Mass.) County Law L.* (1st rpt., March 10, '99.) The period covered in Dr. Wire's report is from August, 1898—when he assumed the office of deputy librarian—to March, 1899. He found 19,110 v. distributed in four departments, with no records "except a curious sort of accession-book, evidently kept for the purpose of helping in making the printed catalog." During the seven months 313 v. have been added, a card catalog has been begun, and such records as accession-book, order-book, periodical register, etc., have been established. The library has in this time been used by 1462 readers. Recommendations for the future cover: a conservative policy of buying, the as-

signment of more money for administrative purposes than for bookbuying, the completion of a card catalog, use of local facilities in binding and repairing, amendment or abolition of present time limit.

*Worcester (Mass.) F. P. L.* (30th rpt. — year ending Nov. 30, '98.) Added 6015; total 120,340. Issued 191,013; ref. use 112,761; Sunday use 8883. New registration 2291; total registration 27,546. Receipts \$38,728.33; expenses \$35,651.14.

The eight delivery stations established in May, 1898, have received 3561 v., and have proved their usefulness.

"Good use, and a largely increased use, has been made during the year just closed of our extensive and valuable pictorial illustrative material. Our stores have been drawn upon for frequent examination by clubs, classes, and individual students, and two elaborate exhibitions have been prepared and thrown open to the general public." The former was a general exhibit of photographs and bas-reliefs, the latter was devoted to Venice.

#### FOREIGN.

*Cuba, Matanzas.* The New York *Evening Post* of March 22 prints an appeal for aid for a public library in Matanzas, Cuba. The appeal, which is issued by Sr. Eduardo Diaz, Governor-General of Matanzas, is in part as follows:

"For the last 40 years the Cubans of this city (Matanzas), fond of human knowledge, have been using their best efforts (always uselessly) to establish a public library, whence could be extended among the popular classes the elements of the sciences and arts. The Spanish Government laid systematically every kind of obstacle to the opening of said institution. This fact will explain why Matanzas, the second city in the island, in the last year of this enlightened century lacks a public library. It is a peremptory want to establish as soon as possible a library which may satisfy the aspirations of the enlightened people of Matanzas. With such a purpose I have devoted a fine apartment in the Provincial Institute for Superior Instruction as a reading-room, and I have the gratification to say that we have already commenced to classify the 3000 volumes we have, and that in a few days we shall celebrate the inauguration of said place. The number of books we have is not what it ought to be for the public library of a city like Matanzas. It is a pressing necessity to try to increase its number. May we not hope to receive from your great country, from the public libraries, scientific societies, and high authorities a good number of works which might come to strengthen our small library wealth?"

It is stated that the "3000 volumes" referred to in this appeal "constitutes a collection which, in an American city or village, would be consigned almost *in toto* to the junk-shop as having no other value. The special needs and special wants are books of general literary character, history, travel, romance, etc., of educational tendency, showing customs, habits, and thoughts

of the people of other nations, and particularly those of the United States. They want departmental reports and works treating of the system of government in and by the United States. Illustrated magazines and public school readers, even the elementary, are also among their expressed wants. The institution with which the library is connected contains a museum of natural history, a "hall of physics apparatus," a chemical laboratory, and a modest meteorological observatory. It maintains professorships, and has recently added two of languages, for instruction in English and in Spanish. In a normal condition of affairs in the island, it has a fairly ample revenue. At present it is heavily handicapped. Any supply of books of the character indicated would prove a valuable educating medium in a community where 100,000 would derive the benefit of its influence, and any communications addressed to Señor Eduardo Diaz, Governor-General of Matanzas, Matanzas, Cuba, would meet with courteous and grateful attention."

*Florence, Bibl. Nazionale.* During 1898 the library was open 278 days for six hours a day, and records a use of 70,369 v. and 4854 manuscripts. There were 57,714 visitors. For use outside the library, on proper guarantee, 6877 v. and 844 autograph letters were lent to 2010 persons; and 1942 v., 21 mss., and 27 autograph letters were lent to other libraries outside the city. There were added to the library during the year 6255 v., 18,341 miscellaneous publications, and 59 mss.

*Genoa, Bibl. Universitaria.* During 1898 the library was visited by 20,244 students, who made use of 26,690 v. and 351 mss.; 938 v. were lent without guarantee and 798 with guarantee to residents of the city, and about 230 were lent to other libraries or Italian institutions. From other libraries there were received for similar temporary use 557 v. and 2 mss. The accessions amounted to 1302 v. and 560 other publications.

*South Australia P. L., Museum and Art Gallery, Adelaide.* (Rpt., 1897-98.) The library statistics are as follows: Added 1415; total 40,539; attendance 76,822, of which 5928 was Sunday attendance. Among the donations noted are a collection of old South Australian newspapers and the catalog of the Boston Athenæum Library. The library expenses are given as £1566.3.11.

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#### Gifts and Bequests.

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*Billings, Mont.* A public library building is to be given to Billings by Mrs. Frederick Billings and Frederick Billings, jr., of New York, on behalf of the Billings estate. The gift is conditional upon the book equipment and maintenance of the library by the city, and its presentation was assured on March 8. The building, which will cost from \$7500 to \$10,000, will be located in a park on Montana avenue, and will be known as the Parmly Billings Me-

morial Library, in memory of the son and brother of the donors. It will contain a gymnasium as well as a public library.

**Hazelwood, Pa.** On March 4 Andrew Carnegie offered to give \$4000 to supplement the \$4000 raised by the women of Hazelwood to erect an auditorium addition to the Carnegie branch library building to be established in Hazelwood.

**Lake Mills, Wis.** Lorenzo D. Fargo, of Lake Mills, has offered to erect a library building to cost \$5000, provided the village authorities or public will furnish a site, the library to be called the Lorenzo D. Fargo Library. The proposition has been accepted. Mr. Fargo is a prosperous farmer, living in the township of Lake Mills, about five miles from the village.

**Stafford (Ct.) P. L.** By the death on March 21 of Mrs. Annette Hyde Colton a bequest of \$25,000 becomes available to the Stafford Library. The bequest was made by Mrs. Colton's brother, Arbey Hyde, formerly a resident of Stafford.

### Librarians.

**BOWEN, Miss Mary**, former student in the library class of Miss Theresa Hitchler, has resigned her position as cataloger at the Society Library of New York City to accept a position in the catalog department of the Library of the University of Pennsylvania.

**CHENEY, Miss Lucy D.**, for two years assistant librarian of the Rutland (Vt.) Free Library, has been appointed librarian of that library, succeeding Miss M. L. Titcomb, resigned.

**CRANSTON, Mrs. Mary**, former student in the library class of Miss Theresa Hitchler, has resigned her position as indexer in the office of the *Review of Reviews* to accept a position in the catalog department of the Library of the University of Pennsylvania.

**ELMENDORF, Henry L.**, superintendent of the Buffalo Public Library, returned on March 18 from a short trip to Italy and through the Mediterranean.

**HOWELL, George Rogers**, archivist of the New York State Library, died suddenly of pneumonia on April 5. Mr. Howell was born in Southampton, L. I., in 1833. He was graduated from Yale in 1854, from Princeton Theological Seminary in 1864, and engaged in ministerial work in western New York. In 1872 he entered the service of the New York State Library, and served that institution faithfully for 27 years. He was the author of several historical pamphlets and published a number of papers in the transactions of the Albany Institute, of which he was secretary for many years. He wrote also "The early history of Southampton, L. I., with genealogies," "The bi-centennial history of Albany," written in conjunction with Jonathan Tenny, and "Noah's log book," a novel. Mr. Howell will be much missed by investigators in genealogy and local history who frequent the state library.

**GILLIS, James L.**, of Sacramento, was on April 1 elected state librarian of California, succeeding Frank L. Coombs, resigned. Mr. Gillis was previously a deputy in the state library under state librarian McCabe, and has also served as keeper of the archives and as clerk of the committee on ways and means.

**MCCRORY, Miss Harriette L.**, graduate of the Pratt Institute Library School, class of '95, has been appointed librarian of the Cedar Rapids (Ia.) Free Public Library, succeeding Miss Virginia Dodge, whose resignation is announced.

**PUTNAM, Herbert.** At the meeting of the trustees of the Boston Public Library on March 24 the resignation of Mr. Putnam as librarian was accepted in the following resolutions:

"In accepting the resignation of Mr. Herbert Putnam as librarian, the trustees of the Public Library of the city of Boston desire to put upon their records the following votes:

"That they recognize the harmonious and helpful relations between the librarian and the trustees from the day he accepted the office; the remarkable administrative qualities he has shown — in directing the alterations by which the library building has been so well fitted for its purpose — in increasing to so large a degree the interest the public takes in the library, until to-day it has a larger constituency than any other — in instituting so successfully the work of the public library in connection with the public schools, and in making the public realize that this institution, created and supported by it, really belongs to it, and needs its ever-enlarging patronage and generosity.

"That they appreciate the feeling which leads Mr. Putnam, at much personal sacrifice, to give up his position here to take charge of the Congressional Library at Washington, and his desire to make it the culmination of the library system of this country, and in time one of the greatest libraries of the world.

"That their highest regard goes with him in the difficult work he is about to assume, and their faith in his gifts to bring it to the most successful issues."

Mr. Putnam entered upon his duties in Washington on April 5, but although his relations with the Boston Public Library are formally severed it is understood that he will continue to give that library for a time the benefit of his advice and counsel.

**SEWELL, Willis F.**, for over three years librarian of the Wilmington (Del.) Institute Free Library, has resigned that office on account of ill-health. He has been succeeded by Prof. Enos L. Doan, former principal of the Friends' School, Wilmington. The trustees in accepting Mr. Sewell's resignation passed resolutions expressing their appreciation of the valuable services rendered by Mr. Sewell, and stating that he had been found "faithful in work, efficient in administration, liberal and scholarly in his tastes, and energetic and prudent in extending the influence of the library."

**WADLEIGH, Mrs. Harriet Child**, was on March 21 removed from her position as librarian of the Los Angeles Public Library, and Charles Dwight Willard, general manager of the Los Angeles *Evening Express*, was elected her successor. The office was declined by Mr. Willard, owing to the circumstances under which it was made, and Isidore B. Dockweiler, president of the board, was then appointed librarian. Both the removal of Mrs. Wadleigh and the appointment of Mr. Willard were made just prior to the expiration of the term

of office of the library board, and it is uncertain whether the incoming board will confirm either. Mr. Dockweiler's appointment was nominal and lapsed with the retirement of the board. The action of the outgoing board is the climax of a long series of charges, counter-charges, investigations, and internal dissensions in the library force—evidently the result of the continued political control of the library and its corroding influence. Matters reached a serious stage early in March, when the majority of the library force brought charges against one of their number, alleging illicit knowledge of the questions asked in one of the competitive examinations for advancement, and demanding an investigation. The charges were dismissed by the board, and later the resignation of the librarian was requested. This was refused by Mrs. Wadleigh, who stated that her resignation would be duly presented to the new board, but that in the case of the outgoing board compliance with the request "would be tantamount to an admission of great inefficiency or misconduct on my part, and not being open to a charge of either character, I would be lacking in self-respect should I give it color by yielding." Thereupon the board removed Mrs. Wadleigh, alleging among its reasons for the action "inability to maintain proper discipline among the library attendants and executive incompetency." The existence of the board expired on March 25, and later developments are therefore in the hands of the new body. Mrs. Wadleigh was appointed librarian of the Los Angeles library in May, 1897, and as the librarianship appears to have become simply a two-years' political office she would probably have been duly superseded as soon as the new board assumed power.

WHITNEY, James L., senior officer of the Boston Public Library force, was on March 24 appointed acting librarian of that library, the appointment taking effect the day before Mr. Putnam's departure for Washington. The duration of Mr. Whitney's appointment is indefinite, and it is thought that a permanent appointment to fill the vacancy caused by Mr. Putnam's resignation will not be made for some time.

WING, J. Norris, for eight years past head of the library department of Charles Scribner's Sons, was on April 7 elected librarian of the New York Free Circulating Library, succeeding Arthur E. Bostwick. Mr. Wing, previous to his connection with Scribner's, was for 13 years a member of the force of the New York Mercantile Library. He has been a member of the American Library Association since 1886, and has been active in the New York Library Club and the New York Library Association, of which he is treasurer.

YATES, James, for many years librarian of the Leeds (Eng.) Public Libraries, and now proprietor of a subscription library in that city, has planned an American trip in season to permit his attendance at the Atlanta meeting of the A. L. A.

## Cataloging and Classification.

BINGHAMTON (N. Y.) CITY SCHOOL L. Second supplement to the finding list, March, 1899. 6 + 22 p. O.

A D. C. list, with adult and juvenile fiction in separate appendixes.

The BOSTON P. L. *Bulletin* for March has several short reference lists, covering "The water supply of the city of Boston," "Civic architecture," and "Passenger transportation in Boston."

BOWDOIN COLLEGE L., Brunswick, Me. Bibliographical contributions, no. 9, March, 1899: One hundred books of 1898. p. 350-360, O.

As usual, an admirable list, careful and discriminating. It should be a most useful purchasing guide to librarians.

CAMBRIDGE (Mass.) P. L. *Bulletin*. v. 3, 1898. Cambridge, 1899. 14 + 244 p. D.

The monthly classified bulletins of 1898 make an attractive little volume, the usefulness of which is increased by an author index. A subject index would have added to its utility.

CATALOGING PERIODICAL SCIENTIFIC LITERATURE. In a recent issue of *Nature* Mr. Frank Campbell, of the British Museum, says: "Some three years ago I alluded, in a work on 'The theory of bibliography' (p. 81-82), to the importance of learned societies undertaking to catalog the literature they produce.

"I pointed out that it was already necessary to supply tables of contents to each journal, bulletin, etc., issued, and that a very slight amount of extra care would transform such tables of contents into technical catalogs of articles, useful alike to the librarian and student—of which extra copies might be struck off at no expense. I referred to the noteworthy efforts of the R. Istituto Lombardo di Scienze e Lettere in registering the articles of foreign scientific journals in its *Bulletin*, and showed the advantages which would accrue if each society did its own work first.

"I am happy to state that the society referred to has taken my remarks in the spirit in which they were written; and, in publishing vol. xxx. of its *Rendiconti* in 1897, has issued accompanying sheets ("Titoli da ritagliare per le schede dei Cataloghi per Autori e per Oggetti") containing full titles (printed on one side only) of the articles appearing in the volume, under *Author*, *Subject* (and *Place*). . . .

"The advantages of such a course are obvious. If each English learned society followed suit and cataloged its own publications at the moment of issue it would be only necessary to send the results to a central bureau (say the Royal Society), and the work of cataloging our scientific periodical literature would be half finished. There would still remain the task of editing—of sorting, classifying, and of occasional amplification or excision; but such work would be immensely lightened and facilitated if the preliminary actual cataloging were already accomplished and in print."

**COLOR CLASSIFICATION.** J. A. Harvie-Brown has issued as a "separate" his paper read at the International Congress of Zoölogy in August, 1898, on "a correct colour code, or sortation code in colours, to serve for mapping the zoogeographical regions and subregions of the world, and also to be of use as an eye-index for librarians." Accompanying the paper are specimens of colors which it is suggested should be used for book-shelves or bindings to indicate, in accordance with the proposed code, the regions to which the works refer.

The **FITCHBURG (Mass.) P. L. Bulletin** for March contains a short reading list on electricity.

**FREE LIBRARY OF THE GENERAL SOCIETY OF MECHANICS AND TRADESMEN, New York.** Supplement no. 11 to the finding list, containing a list of books added from January to December, 1898. New York, [1899.] 16 p. l. O.

The **LOWELL (Mass.) CITY L. Bulletin** for March contains a special reference list on "Music and musicians" (26 p.) annotated.

**MAIMONIDES F. L., New York City.** Some books for girls, and a list of novels for everybody; comp. by S. X. Schottenfels, librarian. April, 1899. 12 p. T.

The **N. Y. P. L. Bulletin** for March contains a first instalment, A-N, of a "List of literary periodicals in that library and in the Columbia University Library."

**ONTARIO (Can.) LEGISLATIVE L.** Catalogue of accessions during the years 1897 and 1898. Toronto, 1899. 80 p. O.

A short-title list on the dictionary plan, but a poor piece of work. Subject entries are inadequate and often omitted. Thus, Bramble's "A B C of mining" finds record only under "A B C" and the author; Thwaites' "Afloat on the Ohio" is recorded only under Thwaites and under "Afloat," and similar instances might be multiplied. Different authors of the same name are amazingly confused, typographical errors abound, and there are numerous mistakes in alphabetizing.

The **SALEM (Mass.) P. L. Bulletin** for March contains a short reading list on Rudyard Kipling.

The **SAN FRANCISCO (Cal.) F. P. L. Bulletin** for March contains a classed reference list on "Music and musicians" covering four and a half pages.

The **SPRINGFIELD (Mass.) L. Bulletin** for March contains a "Selected list of Easter reading."

The **WALTHAM (Mass.) P. L. Bulletin** for February contains a short special list on "Imperialism."

The **WORCESTER (Mass.) F. P. L.** has issued a special 8-page reading list on Robert Browning.

#### FULL NAMES.

Carrodus, J: Tipling. Chats to violin students on how to study the violin; preface and annotations by Henry Saint-George. London, 1895. ("The Strad" library, no. 2.) W: J. J.

Peck, C: H: (The Jacksonian epoch.) B. W.

*The following are supplied by Harvard College Library:*

Barton, Wesley Benton (Opportunities of New England farmers);

Brooks, Christopher Parkinson (Cotton: its uses, varieties, fibre structure, cultivation, etc.); — (Textile education in Massachusetts and Europe);

Collingwood, Herbert Winslow (Market gardening with limited capital);

Goessman, C: Anthony (Notes of field experiments with tobacco in Massachusetts, 1883-96);

Kirkland, Archie Howard (Three shade-tree insects);

Lindsey, Joseph Bridgeo, and others (Cottonseed feed as a hay substitute for milch cows);

Maynard, S: Taylor (Small fruits in the home garden);

Paige, James Breckenridge (Systematic feeding and watering as a preventative of disease in horses);

Stone, G: E: (Massachusetts weeds).

#### Bibliography.

**ACCIDENTS.** Losseau, Léon. De la réparation des accidents du travail: bibliographie des travaux en langue française. Bruxelles, Alliance Typographique, 1899. 376 p. 8°. 10 fr.

**CANADA.** Wrong, G: M., and Langton, H. H. Review of historical publications relating to Canada. Vol. 3. Publications of the year 1898. University of Toronto. Published by the librarian, 1899. 10 + 226 p. O. \$1; \$1.50.

The third issue of this valuable publication maintains the standard of interest and usefulness set in preceding volumes. It follows closely the lines previously established, save in the omission of the appendix devoted to verse and fiction. It records about 150 publications, with comments ranging from half a dozen lines to a three or four page review, and the author and title index affords a useful clue to the books treated.

**CHEMISTRY.** Bolton, H: Carrington. A select bibliography of chemistry, 1492-1897. First supplement. Washington, D. C., Smithsonian Institution, 1899. 9 + 489 p. O. (Smithsonian misc. collections, v. 39, no. 1170.)

Dr. Bolton's great "Bibliography of chemistry," which was published in 1893 (reviewed, L. J., 18:437), is by the issue of this supplement considerably amplified for the original

period, and extended to the close of 1897. Like its predecessor, the supplement is a monument of painstaking labor, carefulness, and accuracy, and its value to the specialist in the subject it treats can hardly be overestimated. It follows closely the lines of the original work, and includes 5554 titles in 25 languages. It does not embrace academic dissertations, which are to be listed in a separate supplement, now nearly ready for the press.

**EDUCATION.** Civic Club of Philadelphia, Department of Education. A selected bibliography of some phases of education; comp. by James Ingersoll Wyer, University of Nebraska Library. Philadelphia, 1899. 12 p. O. 25 c.

A good classed bibliography, with helpful annotations.

**PSALMODY.** Warrington, James. Short titles of books relating to or illustrating the history and practice of psalmody in the United States, 1620-1820. Philadelphia, (Privately printed), 1898. 4 + 96 p. [printed on left-hand page only] sq. D.

This interesting publication is a tentative list upon a subject which Mr. Warrington hopes to treat later in an exhaustive history and bibliography of American psalmody. It is arranged chronologically, noting all known editions of a given title, and indicating which titles have been personally examined by the compiler; the right-hand pages are left blank for notes and additions. The present list is intended chiefly as a means of obtaining further information and additional titles for the complete bibliography, in which will be given not only full titles and collation, but, in the case of rarities, the location of all copies traceable. Mr. Warrington says: "To do this I need assistance. Many librarians and others have cordially helped me, and personally I have examined every book within reach which would throw light on the subject, but I cannot hope that there is nothing which has escaped me." He asks librarians and collectors to report any books which are not included in the list; "in such cases I should be glad to have a line-for-line copy of the title-page and any other bibliographical information or correction." All information should be sent to James Warrington, 303 Walnut place, Philadelphia.

**YIDDISH LITERATURE.** Wiener, Leo. The history of Yiddish literature in the nineteenth century. N. Y., Scribner, 1899. 14 + 402 p. D. net, \$2.

Appendix 1, p. 357-382, is devoted to a bibliography of Yiddish literature.

#### INDEXES.

**BIBLIOGRAPHIE der deutschen Zeitschriften-Literatur.** 2. Bd.: Alphabetisches nach Schlagworten sachlich geordnetes Verzeichnis v. ca.

15,000 Aufsätzen, die während des J. 1897 in ca. 400 zumeist wissenschaftl. Zeitschriften deutscher Zunge erschienen sind, nebst Ergänzgn. zum Jahrg. 1896. Hrg. unter Mitwirkg. v. DD. E. Roth u. M. Grolig v. E. Dietrich. Leipzig, F. Andrä's Nachf., 1899. 4°. 1 tab. \$3.30.

**NEW YORK DAILY TRIBUNE.** Index for 1898; comp. by H. E. Rhoades. N. Y., Tribune Assoc., [1899.] 376 p. O. pap., 50 c.

As a general comprehensive index to current events the "Tribune index" should serve as a useful library tool. It is well arranged, compact, and at the same time so full as to afford information on almost all events and incidents as to which inquiry would be apt to arise. The entries refer, of course, especially to the *Tribune* files, but the date, which is given in all cases, furnishes the clue which would be generally desired.

#### Anonymous and Pseudonyms.

Alan Dale, pseud. of Alfred T. Cohen, author of "In his own image." — B. W.

Carlotta, pseud. of Clara E. Ballou, author of "Ethelind," "A leaf in the storm." (N. Y., Dike Book Co.) — "Catalogue of title entries," Library of Congress. 18 : 8. F. 23, 1899.

George Paston, pseud. of Miss E. M. Symonds, author of "A writer of books," etc. — B. W.

#### Humors and Blunders.

Titles from a list of books submitted for approval by a public library :

Five little Peppers and the hair they grew.

Dodge. Christmas Brinker.

Alcott. Hospitable sketches.

Dewey. Abridged decimal confessions.

**BORROWER :** Please give me "Prisoners of hope."

**ASSISTANT :** That is by Zenda, isn't it?

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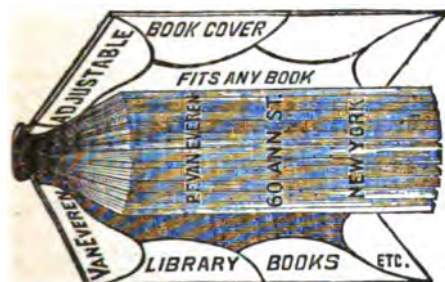
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CHIEFLY DEVOTED TO

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MAY, 1899.

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# THE LIBRARY JOURNAL

VOL. 24.

MAY, 1899.

No. 5

THE conference at Atlanta showed the true library spirit. It was no small matter that 200 people, literally from Maine to California, should take the time and spend the money to go so far afield as Atlanta in their desire to second the endeavor of the South to promote a library development in that part of the country which most lacks and most needs public libraries. The conference was unusually representative, as few faces were missed of those known as leaders in the profession—so few indeed as to call forth individual expression of regret at their absence. The conference accomplished its work well, both for the association and for the South. It was a happy thought to join with the public meeting of the association the formal transfer of the Young Men's Library to the Carnegie library, which is to be the free public library supported by the municipality for the metropolis of the South—for such Atlanta is rapidly becoming. With the impetus given to library development by this happy conjuncture, with the careful attention given to the proceedings of the conference by the public and the press in Atlanta and elsewhere in the South, and with the educational, industrial, and financial development on which the South has entered, there is good reason to believe that in the next decade that great empire will show a progress in libraries comparing well with the record that other parts of the country have already made.

To librarians the most interesting feature of the conference was the session on open shelves. There was, it may almost be said, no minority on a topic which is in England so burning a question as to divide the English association into two hostile camps. The only question was one of limitations—how far public access should be permitted to the penetralia of the stack. No one was prepared to oppose full access at least to a selected or "recommended" portion of the library, and some advocated freedom of access throughout the stack. The general consensus seemed most strongly to favor the plan worked out by Mr. Elmendorf at Buffalo, in placing books most in demand, and which could also be recommended to the public, in a separate division of the library, with full access; or that proposed by Mr. Foster for Providence, of making a select and represen-

tative library of books not to be taken from the room, but from which calls could be made at the delivery-desk for the other copies in the stack. A new emphasis was given to free access by the general agreement that the money saving in attendance far outbalanced any recorded loss of books, as it also outweighed the inconvenience and cost of the perpetual rearrangement necessary with public access. The session offered an interesting contrast to that of some years ago, when Mrs. Sanders, of Pawtucket, a pioneer of this idea, presented the subject to an audience of sceptics.

THE subject of constitutional revision occupied much of the time of the meeting, with the result, however, that little change was made in the constitution except in providing for a council with more ample powers. The committee on the revision of the constitution had endeavored to reflect the sentiment of the previous conference, which seemed to be in favor of recognizing affiliated organizations such as state associations and local clubs, and of providing in detail for the organization of sections. The committee remained in session during much of the conference, endeavoring to reshape its several drafts in conformity with the instructions obtained by votes and through other indications, and the final session of the conference was given up almost entirely to this subject. Happily the association is now so vital and progressive that its form of constitution is comparatively a minor matter.

ATLANTA'S hospitality was abounding, and her welcome to the visitors was of the kindest, but there is much more than this to be said. When the Georgia women, after much persuasion, were induced to tell the association what they had done toward the organization of libraries there was gratifying evidence that the library spirit had already taken hold in the South, not only in Atlanta but elsewhere. Mrs. Heard's womanly and sympathetic talk regarding her own work in connection with the travelling libraries of the Seaboard Air Line was to many worth the journey to the conference, and the brief talks of Mrs. Lowe and others representing the women's clubs of the South showed how earnest and effective were the

efforts toward that service for others which is perhaps the underlying impulse of library work. The congratulations given to Miss Anne Wallace were well deserved. The South has always had reason to be proud of its women, and this young girl, coming into the association from a region where there was no library environment to give her inspiration, has proved a working force of the utmost value, both in her own section and in the general relations of the association. It was gratifying to the visitors to find how responsively her work was appreciated in Atlanta, and gratifying to her fellow-townsmen to learn for how much she and her work counted among the visitors. To her long-continued efforts, her thoughtfulness and energy were due not only the material success of the meeting, but in large measure the spirit of gracious welcome that will long make Atlanta a pleasant memory.

### Communications.

#### SCOTT'S EDITION OF SWIFT—REPLIES.

ANSWERING the communication in your April number in regard to Scott's second edition of Swift's works, Edinburgh, 1824: The missing pages 347-8, volume 6, we found after the title-page in volume 12, and had them put in proper place. There are numerous errors in paging all through the edition, for which I know of no cause, save carelessness of the printer. For instance:

Volume 7, page 139 is numbered 339.

Volume 11, page 43 is numbered 33.

Volume 14, a repetition in numbering after page 144, of pages 137 to 144.

Same volume, pages 169 to 176 omitted in numbering, etc., etc.

In all these cases the reading-matter is correct and continuous. H. L. ELMENDORF.

BUFFALO PUBLIC LIBRARY.

REPLYING to the question of C. A. F. in your April number, permit me to say I find p. 347-8, v. 6, Scott's (2d) edition of Swift's works in its place. My impression is that the only peculiarity about this edition is that it's the best.

ALFRED LEE.

UNION LEAGUE HOUSE, Philadelphia.

In response to the inquiry of C. A. F. in LIBRARY JOURNAL, April, '99, I would state that in my copy of the 2d edition of Swift's works, Edin., 1824, v. vi., p. 347, contains Wood's Halfpenny (with the obverse and reverse of the coin), and underneath

The

Drapier Letters.  
first printed in 1724.

On page 348 the Introduction to the Drapier Letters begins.

THOMAS L. MONTGOMERY.

Philadelphia, Pa.

VOLUME 6 of Scott's second edition of Swift's works, Edin., 1824, which is in this library, contains what the table of contents calls, page 348, "Remarks by the editor." Page 347 has cuts of "Wood's Halfpenny" and "The Drapier's Letters, first printed in 1724." The paging on this leaf, 347-348, is omitted, otherwise I find nothing which seems peculiar.

W. T. PEOPLES.

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#### THE ECLECTIC AND THE LIVING AGE—AN EXPLANATION.

IT is but justice to the publisher of the *Eclectic Magazine* and *Littell's Living Age* to state that I am in receipt of a letter from Mr. Isaac S. Bradley, librarian of the State Historical Society of Wisconsin (Madison), in which he says: "We had a letter last December from the publishers of the *Living Age*, stating that the *Eclectic Magazine* will be made up of selections from the *Living Age*, with scarcely an exception. A subscriber to the *Living Age* will not have need of the *Eclectic Magazine*." A great many libraries failed to receive such a letter, as many have thanked me for calling attention to the matter through the LIBRARY JOURNAL. Such a letter as Mr. Bradley received should have been sent to each library on the subscription lists of both periodicals. PURD B. WRIGHT.

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#### INCLUSION OF GOVERNMENT DOCUMENTS IN GENERAL INDEXES.

I AM impressed every time I open a U. S. Government report by the interesting, valuable, popular material in these works, which ought to be made accessible by some such method as the "Cumulative index to periodicals." I would suggest that the Library Association ought to urge upon the Library of Congress to prepare monthly cumulative indexes to government material; or, better yet, give the assistance toward incorporating the most important material in the present indexes, the Cumulative and Poole.

H. M. STANLEY.

LAKE FOREST UNIVERSITY,  
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#### OFFER TO LIBRARIES.

THE Harvard Library has lately received from the family of the late Colonel Henry Lee, of Brookline, a number of copies of "An exposition of evidence in support of the memorial to Congress setting forth the evils of the existing tariff of duties, etc., prepared in pursuance of instructions from the Permanent Committee appointed by the Free Trade Convention at Philadelphia. By Henry Lee. Boston, 1832." I should like to place these volumes in libraries not already supplied, and will gladly send copies, as long as they hold out, to any libraries asking for them and enclosing to cents in stamps to cover the postage. The "Exposition" is an interesting document in the history of the tariff controversy in America.

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## THE LENOX LIBRARY AND ITS FOUNDER.\*

BY WILBERFORCE EAMES, *Librarian*.

ROBERT LENOX, the father of James Lenox, was a native of Kirkcudbright, Scotland, where he was born in 1759. Shortly before the war of the revolution he and his elder brother, David, came to America, David settling in Philadelphia. Robert was educated under his uncle's direction at Burlington, New Jersey, and after the close of the war, in 1784, he started in business as a general merchant and importer in New York City. He was very successful in his ventures and investments, and at the time of his death, in 1839, he had accumulated a fortune estimated at several million dollars. During the last twelve years of his life he was president of the New York Chamber of Commerce. Having been entrusted by a friend with the investment of some money, Robert Lenox made a loan of a few thousand dollars on a farm at the "Five-mile Post." The gentleman objected to the security. Mr. Lenox immediately took the loan for himself, making a new investment for his friend. He afterward became possessed of the property, and it became what is now known as the area covered by the blocks between Fourth and Fifth avenues and 68th and 73d streets, New York City. On this land was Lenox Hill, where the library building now stands. The old farm-house was in the centre of the block above, and was torn down only a few years ago.

James Lenox was the only son in a family of eight children. He was born in New York City in 1800, I believe at 175 Pearl street, and he died in 1880, three years after the completion and opening to visitors of the library building. In 1818 he was graduated at Columbia College, and in 1821 he took a degree at Princeton. At the age of 26 he was taken into partnership in his father's business, and the name of the firm, Robert Lenox & Son, 59 Broadway, lasted from 1826 to 1840, when it was changed to James Lenox, merchant. In 1845 he retired from business, and devoted his time to the care of his property, to works of philanthropy, and to the collecting of rare books, paintings, and other works of art.

Mr. Lenox's book collecting covered a period of 35 years, from 1845 to 1880. Beginning with

the buying of early editions of the Bible and parts thereof in all languages, he carried this subject to a remarkable degree of fulness. Of editions in English he obtained over 2400 volumes, and of editions in other languages over 1700 volumes, making a total of over 4000 volumes in the Bible collection. According to Mr. Stevens, Mr. Lenox had paid him for Bibles alone, up to the year 1860, upwards of \$80,000. From this statement some idea may be formed of the value of the Bible collection.

In 1845 Mr. Lenox also began collecting early printed books relating to North and South America, confining himself chiefly to books printed between the years 1493 and 1700. So successful was he in obtaining not only nearly every important book relating to this subject and period, but also nearly every edition of every important book, that I feel safe in claiming that nine-tenths of the existing literature can be found on our shelves. The importance of this part of the collection makes it the chief feature of Mr. Lenox's library, no other public collection in this country or abroad being able to equal it. We have been trying, of late years, to make this department of early American history still more complete, and I can assure you that it is a difficult task, for many of these volumes relating to early America now fetch hundreds of dollars, and some of them even thousands of dollars, apiece. In the two years 1854 and 1855 Mr. Lenox paid out for books, through one London agent alone, over \$50,000, and at prices which would represent five times that amount now.

Besides the two great subjects of Americana and Bibles—I place Americana first for good reasons—Mr. Lenox collected the earliest printed books relating to India, to other parts of Asia, and to Africa; also the various early collections of voyages and travels in all parts of the world, especially those of the Dutch navigators, as well as numerous Dutch publications relating to trade and commerce. Mr. Lenox's Shakespeare collection includes all of the early editions of the works, and many of the separate plays in quarto, besides a large amount of literature relating to the subject. The Bunyan collection, the Milton collection, the incunabula or books printed in the 15th century, and the

\* Read before New York Library Club.

block-books, the Aldines or books printed by the Aldus family, the collection of Roman indexes of prohibited and expurgated books, and the large collection of Spanish mss. relating to America, are the chief features of Mr. Lenox's gatherings.

One who knew him well says that Mr. Lenox excelled all men he ever knew for seizing ideas and perseveringly running them out to the end. He possessed an extraordinary aptitude for sticking to and finishing up any work he had in hand. His favorite subjects and authors he rendered astonishingly rich for a period of only 35 years' research; but the subjects and authors he totally neglected at the same time are also astonishingly numerous. So rapidly did Mr. Lenox's purchases come in that he once cautioned Mr. Stevens not to send him too many books at a time, because it kept him up nights collating, examining, passing and entering, or ticking them off in his various lists. As he did all this work himself, he had no time to properly arrange or catalog his accessions, except a few of the smaller and tidier nuggets which he could put away in the few book-cases in his gallery of art, which was also being filled at the same time with paintings and sculptures. The great bulk of his book collections was filed away in the numerous spare rooms of his large house at No. 53 Fifth avenue, till they were filled to the ceiling from the further end back to the door, which was then locked and the room for the present done with.

The accessions, after examination and careful collation, approval and payment, were entered or ticked off by Mr. Lenox in interleaved catalogs of Ternaux, Rich, Ebert, Hain, Lea Willson, Offor, and others, or in small and special memorandum books, with sufficient clearness for his own use, but unintelligible to outsiders. The books were then piled away, or corded up like wood. The amount of labor he performed in this way was prodigious, and it was all his own. No one was permitted to assist him. As he took up subjects and worked them out by study, correspondence or otherwise, he recorded the results in these temporary catalogs. The labor was absorbing and immense, and by 1868 it began to affect his health. It was now difficult for him to tell where particular books were deposited, and it was not always easy for himself to find his brief record

of them, nor was it possible for any one else to find either the books or the entry of them.

In the autumn of 1869 Mr. Lenox resolved to shift his burden by founding a public library. The act of incorporation of the Lenox Library was passed January 20, 1870, nine trustees being named. At the first meeting Mr. Lenox was elected president of the board of trustees, and on this occasion he gave the land on which the library building now stands. His gifts in money towards the building and other library funds during this and the few years following amounted to over \$800,000.

The library building was completed in 1875, the architect being Richard M. Hunt, whose memorial monument on the other side of the avenue has lately been dedicated. In the following year the Lenox books, manuscripts, paintings, sculptures, and other objects of art, were transferred to it. On the 15th of January, 1877, the exhibition of paintings and sculptures was opened, and in December of the same year the exhibition of rare books and manuscripts was laid out in glass showcases, and also opened to the public.

During the seven or eight years between the incorporation of the library and its opening, public interest had been raised to a high point of expectation. It was supposed by many that the new library would open with a reading-room supplied with books in all departments of literature, and when it was found to be only a museum of rare books there was some disappointment. The fact is that among Mr. Lenox's 20,000 volumes there was practically nothing that would be called for or that would be used by the ordinary reader. Modern encyclopædias and reference books were entirely lacking, as were also books on almost every subject besides the few subjects on which Mr. Lenox collected. The intention of the founder was to establish a museum of book rarities which would supplement, and not duplicate, the collections in other public libraries.

I come now to the period of transition in the library's history, from 1878 to 1892, a period which takes in the gradual change in the character of the library, brought about mainly by the addition of other special collections. In 1878 the first portion was received by gift of the library of Evert A. Duyckinck, the well-known historian of American literature, and the remaining portion was transferred in

1890. This collection added to the Lenox Library over 15,000 volumes of well-selected books relating chiefly to English and American literature, and to the arts of book illustration. Mr. Felix Astoin, a respected citizen of New York, gave in 1884 his valuable and well-bound collection of modern French literature, comprising 4500 volumes. In 1888 there was received the bequest of Mr. Joseph W. Drexel, comprising between five and six thousand volumes relating to music; and in 1889 nearly 5000 volumes of a miscellaneous character were added by purchase from the library of Robert Lenox Kennedy.

For the first 10 years after the building was opened admission to visitors was by ticket only, which was sent free of charge to every person who would write for one. On the 8th of November, 1887, this formality was discontinued, and after that date no tickets were required. From 1879 to 1888 Dr. S. Austin Allibone was nominally librarian, or rather keeper of the book exhibition room in the south hall, while Dr. George H. Moore was superintendent or actual librarian of the entire library building. Up to this period (1888) there was practically no provision made for general readers, but only for special students. In 1889, however, the book exhibits were removed to the north hall, and the Duyckinck and Astoin and Drexel books having in the meantime been arranged and cataloged on cards, the south hall was set apart for readers, although the books on hand fell far short of supplying ordinary wants.

In 1892 the Lenox Library received, by bequest of Mrs. Robert L. Stuart, the valuable collection of books, paintings, minerals, shells, and curios, which had been formed by her late husband. This important collection contained nearly 12,000 volumes, representing nearly every department of literature, the fine arts, history, and science, and it enabled the Lenox Library, more than any other collection yet received, to make its reading-room service really useful to the public. In order to make room for this munificent gift the library building was closed for alterations and repairs in May, 1892, reopening on Washington's birthday, February 22, 1893.

From that day we date the opening of our reading-room, in the true sense of the word opening. During the five years and more that

have passed since that opening day we have all endeavored, to the best of our ability, to meet the wants of readers, and to make every one welcome. Beginning with 1893 the Lenox Library was the first large public library in New York, I believe, to make the innovation of keeping open throughout the entire summer and on all holidays. The facilities of the library have also been constantly increasing since that date. In April, 1893, the library of George Bancroft, the historian, was bought entire. This collection added over 15,000 volumes of the highest importance for American history and other subjects. In the same year Dr. Wendell Prime gave his collection of editions of Don Quixote, containing 450 volumes. In 1894 a large and valuable collection of early American newspapers was purchased, comprising over 45,000 numbers, of which 19,000 bore date from 1716 to 1800. Large additions were also made to the early printed Americana.

In 1895 came the consolidation of the Lenox Library with the Astor Library and the Tilden Trust, which was followed by the transfer of Governor Tilden's library of 15,000 volumes to the Lenox building. Early in 1896 a large collection was bought of American genealogies and town histories, and later in the year Mr. John S. Kennedy purchased for \$150,000 the Emmet collection of manuscripts and prints relating to the American Revolution, and gave it to the library. The latest addition is the library of the American Bible Society, containing five or six thousand volumes, which is now being removed to this building.

I have thus endeavored to give in outline a sketch of the library's history. In closing, I wish to remind you that New York City is indebted to the trustees who administered the affairs of the Lenox Library during the last years of its corporate existence, quite as much as to any other cause, for the co-operation which resulted in the formation of the New York Public Library. The old Lenox trustees were among the active workers and promoters of the new corporation. It is characteristic, too, that in making generous gifts to the new library the old Lenox trustees have taken the lead. Finally, I can truly say, that the same ideal of duty to the public which has been our guide since the opening of the Lenox reading-room in 1893 is still our guide under the administration of the New York Public Library.

## THE BROWNE CHARGING SYSTEM: POSSIBLE IMPROVEMENTS SUGGESTED.\*

THE following ideas were conceived during the course in comparative study of loan systems at the New York State Library school, in 1898. Their purpose is to combine the excellences of the two most generally approved systems then in use, the Newark system, perhaps most used, and the Browne system, devised by Miss Nina E. Browne, and since 1895 adopted by many libraries.

The distinctive features of the Browne system are: the reader carries no card, the charging requires no writing and but one dating (that on the book-pocket or dating slip), readers may have different privileges as to number of books allowed, and one item only of the charging apparatus (the book-pocket or dating slip) is used up in the process, except by wear and tear; but the reader must wait for the consultation of a file by the loan clerk, both at the issue of the book (the file of readers' library pockets) and, if another book is desired, at the return (the file of book cards in readers' library pockets).

The distinctive features of the Newark system are: the charge requires no consultation of a file, and the reader need not wait at either the issue or return of a book; but the reader is expected to carry a card,† at the issue of the book three dates must be stamped and the reader's registration number written on the book card, different privileges are not easily provided for, and all three items of the outfit are used up in time by the writing and dating.

In the proposed system: no writing by either reader or loan clerk is required to make the charge, no date need be stamped, though one may profitably be, any number of different privileges may be easily provided for, of the outfit but one item at most is used up, and the reader need not wait for the consultation of a file at the issue of the book unless he chooses

to keep his card at the library when no book is charged upon it, and need not in that case wait for the consultation of a file at the discharge. In the proposed system the books are supposed to have pockets, but these may be dispensed with, an additional file being used in place of them, at the cost of requiring the reader to wait for its consultation at the time of the charge.

The essential feature of the proposed system is the substitution of a reader's card for the reader's library pocket of the Browne system, and of a book-charge-envelope or card-case to be kept in the book-pocket when the book is on the shelf instead of the book-card of the Browne system. The reader's card, which he may carry, need not be large, as it is to receive no dating; it must bear either the reader's name or library number, with his address, date of expiration, name of library, and a few extracts from the rules. The size suggested is 4 x 10 cm., and the card should have round corners for easy adjusting to and from the book-charge-envelope. There may be various different cards, *e.g.*: for general use including fiction, non-fiction, children's ("minor" 's), "extra" (students), "special" (temporary), etc., distinguished by color or other means. The card is practically a ticket, each entitling to one book. Any number of cards desired may be issued to each reader.

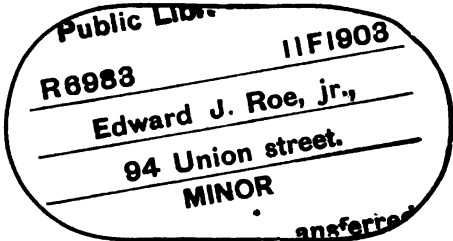
The book-charge-envelope, or case, in which the reader's card is kept, in file, while the book is out, should be small enough to be kept in the book-pocket when not in use, and large enough to hold the reader's card, when in the file, say 5 x 11 cm. The accompanying diagrams show the reader's card and the book-charge-envelope and make clear their distinctive features.

The envelope, for purposes of reference when in use (that is when the book is out and the envelope, containing the reader's card, is in the file), should be so cut as to give a central perforation about 3 x 6 cm., making it a kind of miniature photograph frame, with wide enough margins to receive the book call-number and author and title. The central perforation permits the borrower's name and address on the book card to be read without removing the card from the envelope.

\* Since drafting these suggestions the writer has seen a manila pocket, marked: "Racine Public Library membership card," presumably intended to be carried by the reader, and, if so, probably forming part of a system substantially accomplishing the same objects as the plan here proposed.

† The reader may sometimes keep his card at the library if desired, but, if so, a file must consulted when the card is wanted, and the charging process is made no easier.

*Readers' Card.***Blankville Public Library Reader's Card.****R6983 IIF1903****Edward J. Roe, jr.,****94 Union street.****MINOR****Forfeited if transferred.***Charge Envelope, Containing Card.*

<b>Stoddard</b>		<b>813.49 \$162r</b>
		
<b>813.49 \$162r</b>	<b>Red Patriot</b>	

If a book record is kept in the charge file, a color time-indication scheme, such as is used at the Albany Y. W. C. A. library, may be adopted by having the opposite sides of the envelope and the opposite ends of each side of four different colors, with call-number on each of these four places. Then a different color can be placed facing the loan clerk in the charge file every other week, if the usual period of issue is two or three weeks, and charges overdue more than one week can be taken out and placed in a separate file at the beginning of the fourth or fifth week, when it will be necessary to recommence the succession of colors. This will make it necessary to look in but two files at most, to find where any given book is, and nevertheless delinquencies will never pass unnoticed more than one week after the book is due.

Any form of book-pocket may be used. The best the writer has seen is that now used at the Medford Public Library, which is merely an unfolded strip of stout manila paper, pasted by the ends so as to lie obliquely across a corner of the inside of the back cover.

The usual dating slip may be used, or it may be dispensed with, if the file is kept as a book account, as above suggested; but the date is desirable for the two purposes of telling the borrower when the book is due and the librarian how much the book circulates, if for no others. Indeed, it might be worth while to preserve on file old dating slips, as a permanent record of each book's circulation. It would be possible, without any more additional labor than is now required in the Newark system, to keep also a permanent record which would tell for any length of time precisely who had ever borrowed any book, when he had it, and how long he kept it: namely, by adding on the dating slip the date of return and reader's registration number. Either the book-pocket or the dating slip should at any rate bear the book call-number, or the same marks as the book-charge-envelope, to save errors in replacing the latter.

The charging process in the proposed system is as follows: On receiving a book at the loan desk the loan clerk takes the book-charge-en-

velope from the book-pocket, and the reader's card from the borrower or from the file, stamps date, or date due, on the dating slip, issues the book and places the reader's card within the envelope. That is all that need be done at the moment. The book-charge-envelope with the reader's card within it may be filed when opportunity occurs, either by the call-number, or first by the date of issue and second by call-number, as preferred.

*Discharge:* When a book is returned the reader may either leave it at the receiving desk and depart, or may wait until the book-charge-envelope is found in the file and receive his card. The loan clerk has only to find the book-charge-envelope in the file, remove the reader's card, replace the envelope in the book-pocket, and either hand the reader's card to the owner or file it, at her convenience. In large libraries the process may be made very expeditious by having all issues of books at one desk, and all books received and files kept, both the charge-file and the file of unused reader's cards, at another desk. Then the borrower who has left his card at the library the last time he returned a book must get it at the files desk before applying for another book. Or, when a reader returns one book and wishes to draw another at the same time, if both books are issuable upon the same kind of card he need not wait at all and the clerk need not consult any file, at the time, for the clerk may put the book-charge-envelope of the book issued temporarily in the book-pocket of the book returned, and then when the book returned is discharged, later, the reader's card of the borrower will be at hand, in order to make the charge for the book issued.‡

*Renewal*, if permitted, is accomplished by a mere reversal of the position of the envelope in the file, if book account is kept, or shifting of its place, if time account. "*Reserves*," if permitted, can be provided for by inserting an extra temporary slip with note to that effect in the book-charge-envelope, and memoranda of *files* similarly.

Many variations in the system are possible, and its flexibility makes it adaptable to a great variety of conditions. It can be modified to suit any free library, from the large city library with great circulation to the smallest village library.

‡All this will be equally true of the Browne system without other modification, if the reader's library pocket of that system is used as a reader's card, the borrower keeping it when no book is charged upon it.

## CURIOSITIES OF INDEXING.

*E. S. in The Academy.*

I HAVE before me a newly published work, an interesting and a useful work, by three ladies, "Work and play in girls' schools," the value of which as a book of reference is almost nil until you have mastered the contents for yourself. The index is practically useless. Instead of references to concrete facts, such as the names of authors recommended for study, abundant attention is given to abstract ideas. Green, Scott, Henty, and other writers are absent from the index, while such items as these occupy their room:

Intellectual ambition, fostering, 40.  
Intellectual sympathy with pupil, necessity for, 38.  
Intellectual work, number of hours to be devoted to, 412.  
Interest, awakening, in pupils, 37.

One is reminded of the humorous indexes found sometimes in the old political pamphlets. See, for example, "The beauties of Fox, North, and Burke" (London, 1784):

Impotence, Lord North accused of it.  
Impeachment, Mr. Burke talks of it to Lord North.  
Insolent, Mr. Burke pronounces Lord North.  
Insolence and Temerity, Mr. Fox charges Lord North with both.  
Indecency and Impropropriety, Mr. Burke accuses Lord North of both.  
Indignity and Vileness, Lord North charged with both.  
Inquiry into it, threatened by Mr. Fox.  
Insulting and Impertinent, Lord North accused of being so.

These things illustrate several faults of the ordinary indexer, but especially that one of indexing adjectives. One of my own works was so disfigured in this way that I marked, in pencil, against the index in every copy I could come across, "not by E. S." Here are some specimens:

*Extended representation*, 71.  
*General fast and humiliation*, 105.  
*Royal proclamation*, 31.  
*Unauthorised meetings*, 175.

The index to the recently published biography of Francis Place is utterly unworthy of such a valuable addition to modern historical literature — *e. g.*:

Personal appearance of Place, 16.  
Father, Place's, 3.  
Regent unpopular, 121.  
Regent's proclamation, 140, 142.  
Regent Park meeting, 306.  
*Register*, Cobbett's. See *Political Register*.  
*Register*, *Extraordinary* (Hone's), 123.

This is unmitigated slipshodder. Again, in the "Autobiography and letters of J. A. Roebuck" there are some decided curiosities. I look in the index for items of Canadian his-

tory. Under the name Simcoe I find one reference: "Simcoe, Governor-General of Canada, 4." There is no allusion to that officer on p. 4, so I am driven to the necessity of a search. On p. 11 is this sentence: "My mother's brother had been secretary to General Simcoe when he was Governor-General of Canada." This, however, is not quite so bad as

Expenditure, extravagant, 123.

War establishments, 123.

Corn laws, 123.

The items thus cataloged occur in this sentence: "Finally, it . . . means continuance of all abuses: and among other things it means perpetual corn laws, it means extravagant expenditure, war establishments during peace." Then, on referring to "Woollen trade, p. 128," one finds an allusion to some new process in the manufacture of a sort of felting, which is itself not indexed.

I could take many curious illustrations of this topic from the books on my own modest shelves, although most of these have been acquired with due regard to the quality of their indexes. One exception lies in the latest "revised" edition of Stanley's "History of birds," the index to which is deplorably bad, e.g.:

Pheasant attacks a lady, 277; directions for rearing them, 280. [It would have been interesting to learn the result of all this, but p. 280 says nothing about the lady.]

Age of Goldfinches, 216 [although there is a heading *Goldfinches*, with five references, one of which is wrong].

*Birdcatchers*: employ owls, 154.

*Fests* of Birdcatchers, 412.

*Desperate* leap of a Birdcatcher, 415.

*Fatal* event to a family of sea-fowlers, 416.

*Bird-catching* in Shetland and St. Kilda, 409.

*St. Kilda*, 410, [no cross-reference to Shetland].

True it is that one may sometimes learn how to do a thing by seeing how it is not done. A little reflection over these oddities shows how completely the indexer has spoilt his work by bolting along without regard to first principles. He has not looked at the proportions of his task as he went forward. He has not been heedful of passing effects upon the minds of ordinary people. He has forgotten that an index which does not appeal to the least intelligent reader is no index at all.

The want of a subject-index at the British Museum Library is constantly before the literary world. The thing would not be so imperative but for the working of one of the rules, to the effect that anonymous works are to be indexed by the first noun substantive that occurs in the title. An excellent rule from some points of view, but productive of some comical results, as

*State*—The true state of the business of glasse of all kindes. . . .

*Kind*—Dein Kind lebet. Ein Büchlein. . . .

A Kind of a Dialogue in Hudibras-tics.

*Kinds*—How to make several kinds of miniature pumps and a fire-engine.

One might say much about rules, and taste, and plan, and scope, and perspective. But that is not our present business. My case is the want of common intelligence and the lack of humor exhibited in the above contemporary specimens of book-indexing, samples of work done by persons who imagine that indexing is an affair demanding no literary or artistic effect.

It must be granted that there is no lack of excellent indexes. One of the best known is that in the concluding volume of the popular edition of Carlyle's works. It contains, perhaps, 20,000 items, all of them to the point, and, in many cases, actually helping to elucidate the text. Another very learned and ingenious index is that compiled for "Francis Bacon" by Dr. Edwin Abbott. It is full and accurate, though not overloaded; and it includes a concordance of the words to which any use or illustration by Bacon has been given or quoted in the book. Some of the modern manuals and students' books are well furnished with indexes, as Minto's "English prose literature" and Geikie's "Class book of geology." This last is raised to the dignity of a cyclopædia, besides being a very readable volume. After the table of contents of the chapters, and a list of the illustrations, the index contains some 3000 items, fully defined, without waste of words, and bearing an asterisk whenever a figure of the subject will be found on the page indicated. Oliver's "Elementary botany" has a careful index and glossary combined in the same alphabet, thus:

Scrape, 81.

Scarious, dry and rather stiffly membranous.

Subulate, 74.

Succulent, fleshy.

This is a very excellent and, indeed, indispensable plan in text-books.

## THE LIBRARIAN AS AN EDUCATOR.

If the librarian is to be more than a conservator and distributor of books, if he is to fulfil his highest function as educator of the people he must have direct relations with individuals. In small towns he must constantly confer with individuals, advise them, and send notices of new books likely to interest particular individuals. In large city libraries there should be consulting librarians in different departments, Juvenile, Fiction, etc., but these should have the general ability and tact to lead the reader to higher levels in all lines. By placing in each volume a list of kindred books and articles the reader may be led upward, for example from "Captains courageous" through "Cruise of the *Cachalot*" to Reclus' "The ocean." Never was there a falser proverb than "The librarian who reads is lost." The true librarian as educator knows books as the teacher does his subject, and only by reading widely, intelligently, enthusiastically, can he stimulate and direct the reading of others.

H. M. STANLEY.

## EARLY TRAVELLING LIBRARIES.

*From the New York Public Library Bulletin.*

In the year 1817, a system of what was called "Itinerating libraries" was begun in East Lothian, Scotland—the object being to furnish the towns and villages of the county with libraries of useful books. Each library was to consist of 50 volumes, and was to be moved about from one town or village to another, and a new division sent in its place. The plan was commenced with five of such libraries, each with bookcases, catalogs, labels, advertisements, and records for the issuing of books, the total cost of each of these libraries being from 10 to 12 pounds.

At first, all the libraries were entirely gratuitous. Subsequently, a plan was adopted of keeping the new books for the use of persons giving a small annual subscription, which amounted to about a penny a volume.

Nine years later, on the 15th day of August, 1826, a public meeting was held at Edinburgh, for the purpose of establishing a society for the promotion of itinerating libraries, when it was agreed that an annual contribution of five shillings should be paid by every member of the society. In the report of the organization the utility of such libraries is briefly set forth.

The first report of this society was issued Nov. 29, 1827, and gives an account of the establishment of five or six itinerating libraries, the number being soon after increased to 10.

Of the stock of 500 volumes, it is stated that 250 were religious treatises and religious biographies; 70 related to history and general biography; 50 to elementary science, mechanics, and agriculture, and 130 to travels, voyages, and miscellany.

In this report a catalog of the books in the several libraries is given, and the following is the list of books contained in Nos. 1 and 2 of these travelling libraries, which it may be of interest to compare with some of the lists of the travelling libraries of the present day:

## FIRST DIVISION.

- 1 Burn (General), *Who Fares Best?*
- 2 ——— *Christian Officer's Complete Armour.*
- 3 Owen on Psalm CXXX.
- 4 Josephus's Wars of the Jews, vol. 1.
- 5 ditto vol. 2.
- 6 Lives of the Duke of Marlborough, Lord Nelson, and the Duke of Wellington.
- 7 Narratives of Shipwrecks.
- 8 History of the Plague in London in 1665.
- 9 Beveridge's Private Thoughts.
- 10 Display, a Tale by Mrs. Taylor.
- 11 Robertson's History of Charles V., vol. 1.
- 12 ditto vol. 2.
- 13 ditto vol. 3.
- 14 ditto vol. 4.
- 15 Willison's Afflicted Man's Companion.
- 16 May's Lectures to the Young.
- 17 Orton's Life of Dr. Doddridge.
- 18 Life of Captain Cook.
- 19 Memoirs of Dr. Dwight.
- 20 Marten and His Scholars—Serjeant Dale—and Lucy Clare.
- 21 Grosvenor's Mourner.
- 22 Remains of Henry Kirke White.
- 23 Mason's Select Remains.
- 24 Baxter's Converse with God.
- 25 Youth's Magazine, vol. 1. 1805-6.
- 26 ditto vol. 2. 1807.
- 27 ditto vol. 3. 1808.
- 28 ditto vol. 4. 1809.

- 29 Booth's Reign of Grace.
- 30 Doddridge's Sermons on the Power and Grace of Christ.
- 31 Walker's Christian.
- 32 Edwards on Redemption.
- 33 Baxter's Saints' Rest.
- 34 Owen on Indwelling Sin.
- 35 Cecil's Remains.
- 36 Maundrell's Journey from Aleppo to Jerusalem.
- 37 History of the Fairchild Family.
- 38 Steele's Husbandman's Calling.
- 39 Memoirs of Mrs. Paterson of St. Petersburg.
- 40 Alleine's Alarm to the Unconverted.
- 41 Witherspoon on Justification and Regeneration.
- 42 Bingley's Useful Knowledge, vol. 1. Minerals.
- 43 ditto vol. 2. Vegetables.
- 44 ditto vol. 3. Animals.
- 45 Chalmers's Sermons, Preached in St. John's Church.
- 46 Bonnycastle's Introduction to Astronomy.
- 47 Hall's (of Leicester) Sermons.
- 48 More's Essay on the Character and Writings of St. Paul, vol. 1.
- 49 More's Essay on the Character and Writings of St. Paul, vol. 2.
- 50 Letters and Papers of the Rev. Thomas Scott.

## SECOND DIVISION.

- 1 Paley's Works, vol. 1. Evidences of Christianity.
- 2 ditto vol. 2. Moral and Political Philosophy.
- 3 ditto vol. 3. Natural Theology and Tracts.
- 4 ditto vol. 4. Horæ Paulinæ—Clergyman's Companion.
- 5 ditto vol. 5. Sermons.
- 6 Henry's Pleasantness of a Religious Life.
- 7 Cowper's Letters.
- 8 Scott's Theological Tracts.
- 9 Thomson's Sermons on Hearing the Word.
- 10 Pierre and His Family.
- 11 Memoirs of Miss Smeit.
- 12 Scientific Dialogues, vol. 1. Mechanics.
- 13 ditto vol. 2. Astronomy.
- 14 ditto vol. 3. Hydrostatics.
- 15 ditto vol. 4. Pneumatics.
- 16 ditto vol. 5. Optics and Magnetism.
- 17 ditto vol. 6. Electricity.
- 18 ditto vol. 7. Questions and Exercises.
- 19 Doddridge's Rise and Progress, with an Introductory Essay by Foster.
- 20 Robertson's History of America, vol. 1.
- 21 ditto vol. 2.
- 22 ditto vol. 3.
- 23 Robertson's Historical Disquisition on Ancient India.
- 24 Maternal Solitude for a Daughter's Best Interest, by Mrs. Taylor.
- 25 A Practical View of Christian Education.
- 26 Boston's Fourfold State.
- 27 Jerram's Tribute of Parental Affection to the Memory of a beloved and only Daughter.
- 28 Simpson's Visit to Flanders in 1815.
- 29 Lives of the Duke of Marlborough, Lord Nelson, and the Duke of Wellington.
- 30 Josephus's Wars of the Jews, vol. 1.
- 31 ditto vol. 2.
- 32 Thornton's Anecdotes accompanied with Observations, vol. 1.
- 33 Thornton's Anecdotes, accompanied with Observations, vol. 2.
- 34 Conversations on Natural Philosophy.
- 35 Narrative of the Loss of the Kent East Indiaman.
- 36 Bunyan's Grace abounding to the Chief of Sinners.
- 37 The Retrospect, or a Review of the Providential Mercies.
- 38 Mead's almost Christian discovered.
- 39 Bickersteth's Christian Hearer.
- 40 James's Christian Father's Present to his Children.
- 41 Edgeworth's Popular Tales, vol. 1.
- 42 ditto vol. 2.
- 43 ditto vol. 3.
- 44 Murray's Historical Account of Discoveries and Travels in Africa, vol. 1.
- 45 Murray's Historical Account of Discoveries and Travels in Africa, vol. 2.
- 46 Walton's Lives of Donne, Wotton, Hooker, Herbert, and Sanderson.
- 47 Life of the Rev. Thomas Scott, by his Son.
- 48 Foster's Essay on the Evils of Popular Ignorance.
- 49 Feron's Sketches of America.
- 50 Brown's Memoirs of the Rev. James Hervey.



Subsequently, the society appears to have extended to two or three other counties of Scotland. From the last report of these libraries, dated November, 1834, it would seem that the organization became involved in debt, and it is doubtful whether the work was continued much beyond that date.

### American Library Association.

*President:* R. G. Thwaites, State Historical Society, Madison, Wis.

*Secretary:* Henry J. Carr, Public Library, Scranton, Pa.

*Treasurer:* Gardner M. Jones, Public Library, Salem, Mass.

*TWENTY-FIRST CONFERENCE, ATLANTA, GA., MAY 9-12, 1899.*

The 21st conference of the American Library Association was opened at the Kimball House, Atlanta, Ga., on the evening of May 8, and closed its sessions at Lithia Springs, Ga., on May 12. The conditions of distance and expense involved in meeting so far south naturally restricted the attendance, which, while it exceeded the Denver record, fell much below the figures of the past three years. There were 220 persons registered, but the gathering was notably representative, including almost all the names most familiar in library circles, and ranging literally across the continent. The considerable attendance from the South was especially gratifying, and gave fair promise that the meeting would be an uplift to library endeavor in the southern states, while the hospitality and kindly interest that met the visitors on every hand brought a sense of personal welcome that will long remain a pleasant memory.

As usual, the first evening of the conference was set aside for an "informal reception and acquaintance session," when the delegates—the majority of whom had arrived in one body earlier in the evening—met in the parlors of the Kimball House and were welcomed by the local reception committee, in which Mr. T. H. Martin and Miss Anne Wallace were leading spirits. Mayor Woodward also had a word of greeting for each visitor, and the weariness of travel was speedily forgotten in the pleasure of meeting old friends and making new ones.

#### FIRST DAY.

On the morning of Tuesday, May 9, the business of the conference began. The large ballroom on the third floor of the Kimball House made an admirable meeting-hall, and it was well filled when at 10.15 President Lane called the conference to order with the gavel presented to the A. L. A. by its Jamestown hosts a year ago. The president's address was the first order of the day. It gave a simple statement of the purpose and spirit of the A. L. A. meetings, a clear-sighted glance at the library record of the year past, and a consideration of the powers and privileges of librarianship; and it was at once graceful, sympathetic, and directly inspiring. In the conferences themselves Mr. Lane found one central source of strength and en-

couragement. "We come together from all over the Union, and even from beyond its borders, to get mutual help and counsel; to compare notes on the best way of accomplishing our objects. We find that others have been wrestling with the same problems that have engaged our thoughts, and we discover that they have usually reached some different solution from that we have arrived at—a solution which may or may not be better fitted to our own conditions, but which in any case is stimulating and instructive. We realize how broad and how many-sided are the interests, and how widely active are the forces with which we deal, and as this becomes clearer and more real to each of us, that living spark of eager purpose is transmitted from one to another, brightening in the older and it may be weary workers, and kindling afresh in the younger and untired ones, the common desire to make the library a potent force for good in this masterful, moving, yet often floundering and mistaken world." The outstretching of library influence through travelling libraries and school work, and the rapid growth of state and local organization, were touched upon, and chief among the events of the past year were placed Mr. Carnegie's library gift to Atlanta and the appointment of Mr. Putnam as Librarian of Congress. The former should give a new impetus to the whole library movement in the southeast, making the present the opportune time for new campaigns and fresh extensions; the latter should be fruitful in good results "in bringing sharply to public attention the fact that politics must be absolutely eliminated from library administration and the selection of librarians. In this respect the example of the Library of Congress may be expected to have its special influence upon state libraries where political considerations alone have too often ruled." In conclusion, Mr. Lane touched upon the work of the librarian in its higher possibilities—as a serving of others, a turning of the knowledge of the past to the service of the present and of the future—and set forth in a few inspiring words his belief that on the whole there was no work in life "which yields more satisfaction than ours, or better repays careful, well-directed, unselfish effort, or stands in more interesting relations with the work of others."

Mr. Crunden followed with a few words regarding the appointment of the Librarian of Congress, and expressed the sense of all members of the A. L. A. in moving "That the thanks of the association be tendered to President Lane for the ability, energy, and tact with which he represented the association in regard to the appointment of a national librarian." Voted.

Reports of the various officers and committees followed. Mr. Carr stated that the secretary's report would be made later in print. The treasurer's report, presented by Mr. Jones, showed receipts from July 1, 1898 to April 30, 1899 of \$2624.60, expenses \$2188.17, leaving a balance in the treasury of \$436.43. 113 new members had been added, and the total paid

membership was given as 501, of which 27 were library memberships. The necrology included six names—Hannah E. Bigelow, Arthur M. Jellison, Jeremiah C. Kittredge, Mrs. Ernst Lemcke, Dr. William Pepper, Leonard Thompson. The report was accepted and referred to the finance committee for audit. In this connection R. R. Bowker spoke of the serious illness of Dr. Reuben A. Guild, and it was voted that the association send to him a message of greeting and sympathy. The report of the Publishing Section by Mr. Lane, which had been distributed in printed form, was presented by W. I. Fletcher, who urged the necessity of securing to the section a guarantee fund of \$1000 or \$1500 for the next year. The report reviewed the varied activities of the section during the year, giving the individual status of each publication, and outlining the work in hand and contemplated. Improvements were noted in the series of printed cards for current periodicals, among these being the proposal to issue such cards for complete sets extending back through several years and for composite books. The printed cards issued by the section for the Warner "Library of the world's best literature" and the Massachusetts Library Club plan for thus indexing Massachusetts state documents were referred to, and the co-operation of the association was asked in developing the great field for useful work that has opened before the section. A tabulated statement of accounts, accompanying the report, showed the financial status of each publication and of the section.

The report of the endowment fund, made by Mr. Soule, covered the two years June 15, 1897 to May 2, 1899, and showed receipts of \$5748.17, with payments of \$1361.80, and a balance of \$4386.37. The total assets were given as \$6086.37, the estimated income for the coming year as \$367.43, and a recommendation was submitted by the trustees suggesting that systematic effort be made by the association either to increase the amount of the fund to \$100,000 or to obtain annual subscriptions to the amount of \$5000.

The report of the committee on public documents was presented by Mr. Bowker, chairman. While no public document legislation for the year was reported, various improvements in methods of cataloging and distribution were noted. The present condition of the state libraries of the country was briefly summarized, and a table giving the status of each state library as to size, character, etc., was presented.\* Two resolutions were presented and adopted: 1, approving and commending the proposed change of the "comprehensive index" of public documents to biennial instead of annual issue, and urging that the "consolidated index" provided for each session be printed and distributed as soon after each session as practicable; and 2, extending the thanks of the A. L. A. to Senator Lodge, chairman of the Joint Committee on Printing, to Public Printer

Palmer and to Superintendent Ferrell "for their courteous invitations for the co-operation of the association in the further improvement of the publication of public documents," and authorizing the committee on public documents to extend such co-operation.

For the committee on foreign documents C. H. Gould spoke, stating that good progress had been made toward a systematic list of German official documents, and that the committee would report later in print. The A. L. A. catalog supplement having been noted in the report of the Publishing Section, no report of that committee was made, but Mrs. Fairchild spoke briefly of the final work now in hand.

F. M. Crunden, chairman of the committee on revision of A. L. A. constitution, then read the draft submitted by that committee (see L. J., April, p. 154), discussion of which was deferred; and the report of the committee on library tracts was presented by C. C. Soule, chairman. The report outlined the need, familiar to most librarians, of printed material that should answer inquiries as to library organization in a simple and satisfactory way, and suggested seven topics to be treated in separate "tracts" and issued by the Publishing Section for the association. The topics recommended were: 1, Why should we have a public library? 2, How to start a public library; 3, Travelling libraries; 4, Suggestions for governing boards of libraries; 5, Library rooms and buildings; 6, Selection and purchase of books; 7, Scope and management of small college libraries. The committee asked that it be authorized to carry on the work as outlined, and, on Mr. Soule's resignation as chairman, it was voted that Miss Plummer and Miss Haines, with another member to be appointed by the president, constitute a committee to carry the report into effect.

C. W. Andrews reported for the committee on library exhibit at the Paris Exposition of 1900, stating that the exhibit, while under the charge of H. J. Rogers, of Albany, head of the Department of Education and Social Economy, was to be representative of the A. L. A., and prepared under its auspices. The committee recommended that the association accept the offer of the New York State Library to act as its agent in preparing this exhibit, and that a committee of three be appointed to examine and approve plans and give such assistance and advice as may be necessary. The recommendations were accepted, and a committee was later appointed by the executive board, as follows: W. T. Peoples, Miss A. R. Hasse, C. W. Andrews.

The report of the committee on title-pages of periodicals, presented by W. I. Fletcher, included an outline of an address to be sent to publishers urging improved and more uniform methods of publication and arrangement, which was accepted and referred back to the committee with power to act; and the committee hearings were concluded with Mr. Jones's report on library schools, in which the work of the New York State, Pratt, Drexel, and Illinois schools were briefly summarized. One of the most grati-

\* This information was given in preliminary form in L. J., March, p. 108.

ying incidents of the meeting followed, in the announcement that the executive board desired to nominate Andrew Carnegie to honorary membership in the A. L. A. — a nomination that was greeted with applause and adopted by a rising vote. The committee on resolutions was announced as follows: F. M. Crunden, T. L. Montgomery, Miss E. C. Doren, and at 12.40 the session was adjourned.

The afternoon was devoted to section meetings. The College and Reference Libraries Section assembled in the two small parlors, which were soon full to overflowing, and held an animated and interesting session devoted to the problem of classification as encountered in college and reference libraries. Miss Olive Jones, of Ohio State University, introduced the subject in a capital paper, presenting the need of a classification that would specifically meet these special requirements, and the tale was then taken up by Messrs. Dewey and Cutter, who set forth the fitness and adaptability of their respective systems for college and reference purposes. The resultant discussion was full of animation, participated in by Messrs. Lane, Fletcher, Andrews, Mann, Dewey, Richardson, and others, and bringing out much of interest and value in personal experiences with the D. C., E. C., and other methods of classification. Simultaneously with this meeting the Elementary Section held a well-attended session in the assembly hall. The subjects here presented were "The business side of a woman's career as a librarian," by Miss M. E. Ahern, of *Public Libraries*, who emphasized as essentials of business success common sense, punctuality, dignity, and a rigid control of one's "feelings"; "Book selection, buying, and binding," by Dr. Wire, who deprecated the purchase of costly books for small libraries, and gave useful practical suggestions as to the details of ordering, binding, etc.; "Hints on classification," by Miss L. E. W. Benedict, presented by Miss Mead; and a review of the chief essentials in the processes of "Cataloging, accessioning, and shelf listing for small libraries," by Miss Jennie D. Fellows. The only discussion was evoked by Dr. Wire's paper, which called forth an animated defence of the best books as against cheaper ones from Miss Stearns, Miss Haines, and Mrs. Sanders, who advocated the purchase of such books as "Farthest north," the Tennyson life or the Browning letters, even though this meant curtailment of the library's order list.

Later in the afternoon an informal reception was tendered to the association by the Atlanta Woman's Club, which was "at home" from 5.30 to 6.30 in its pleasant rooms in the Grand Opera House, where cordial welcome and hospitable refreshment greeted all comers. The evening was set apart for a public meeting, or, as the programs said, a "Library rally," complimentary to the study clubs and the Atlanta Lecture Association. By 8.30 the beautiful opera house, which ranks fourth in size in the country, was filled with a gay audience of visitors and hosts, and T. H. Martin, to whose thoughtfulness and unwearied activity the social success of the

conference was so largely due, was cordially greeted as he opened the session with a few words of welcome. He announced that the printed program would be varied by the introduction of "a little local ceremony," and introduced Eugene M. Mitchell, president of the Young Men's Library Association, who, on behalf of that association, delivered to the mayor a deed conveying to the city of Atlanta the entire property, real and personal, of the Young Men's Library Association, to be merged into the free public library assured by Mr. Carnegie's generosity. In presenting the deed Mr. Mitchell briefly reviewed the history of the Atlanta library, and the events leading to and succeeding Mr. Carnegie's gift; the property conveyed, he said, included real estate valued at \$50,000, books, pictures, etc., valued at \$35,000, and invested funds at \$11,500, and the transfer was made without conditions other than that the association should have a directing voice in the administration of the new library, and that the property should be devoted to free public library purposes forever. Mayor Woodward accepted the deed in a few graceful words, referring to the years of work freely given to the upbuilding of the Atlanta library, and closing with a cordial welcome to the visitors. John Temple Graves, of Atlanta, followed with an address of welcome that was a fine piece of magnetic oratory, abounding in happy phrases and expressing the appreciation of Atlanta toward Mr. Carnegie, the Young Men's Library, and the A. L. A. His tribute to Miss Anne Wallace, the moving spirit in the library development, as "the girl in the pink shirt waist, Atlanta's Henry Grady in petticoats, the leader and guardian of the library," evoked prolonged applause. Mr. Lane responded on behalf of the A. L. A. in a few apt words, and introduced Melvil Dewey, who spoke on "Library advancement: what a library should be and what it can do," tracing the development of modern library endeavor and its extension into all branches of educational work. F. A. Hutchins, of the Wisconsin Free Library Commission, followed with an address on "Travelling libraries," pointing out the value and far-reaching influence of the work done in Wisconsin and other states, and the session was concluded with an exhibit of fine lantern views of library buildings, collected and described by C. C. Soule. Unfortunately, owing to the lateness of the hour, this exhibit was much curtailed, and its full interest could hardly be appreciated. At the close of the exercises the audience adjourned to an informal reception tendered to the A. L. A. by the Capital City Club at its delightful club-house, where, with music, dancing, and good company, the first day of the conference of 1899 was at last brought to an end.

#### SECOND DAY.

The program for Wednesday morning called for a continuance in general session of the topic "Library advancement," presented at the public meeting Tuesday night. The session was

called to order at 10.05 by President Lane, but before the regular program was taken up Mr. Cheney, of the Newberry Library, spoke briefly on the blue-print process for printing catalogs devised by Mr. Rudolph, of that library,\* and Mr. Crunden presented a report of the committee on constitutional revision, and announced that the committee would hold a hearing on the subject at 9 o'clock the following morning. The draft submitted by this committee called forth so much discussion that considerable time was spent before the regular program was opened by S. S. Green with a practical and helpful address on "How to encourage the foundation of libraries in small towns," based on his long service in the Massachusetts Free Public Library Commission. Mr. Webb, of Tennessee, followed with an account of the interesting work carried on by himself in sending small libraries throughout the farming regions of that state; and Miss L. E. Stearns had a capital paper, telling "How to organize library commissions and make state aid effective," with a practicality and an earnest appreciation of the broadest aspect of the work that made it directly helpful and inspiring. F. A. Hutchins continued his subject of the previous evening telling "How to start travelling libraries," and then President Lane called upon Mrs. Eugene Heard to tell something of her work in connection with the travelling libraries sent out by the Seaboard Air Line. Mrs. Heard's reluctant little speech was the event of the Atlanta conference that will remain longest in the memories of those who were privileged to hear it; in its simplicity, its charm, and its heartfelt earnestness it was at once an inspiration and a delight, and the thought that the work Mrs. Heard had taken up for "my own people" might be helped and strengthened by this meeting of the A. L. A. seemed in itself a sufficient reason for this southern conference.

"How women's clubs may help the library movement" was the subject of a paper by Miss E. G. Browning, of Indianapolis, who gave many excellent suggestions for library work in that direction and described the gratifying results of the efforts of the women's club of Indiana toward a state library commission. A paper by H. M. Utley, on "How to plan a library building," was presented by title, owing to Mr. Utley's absence; and the session was concluded with a delightful paper by Miss Hewins, on "How to make a library attractive," setting forth the ways and means by which the best service and most inviting surroundings might be secured for the public. Before adjournment announcement was made that the conference would be transferred on Friday morning to Lithia Springs, where the final sessions would be held.

In the afternoon the A. L. A. followed the advice given to Pallas. It set aside its owl and had a lark instead; and a delightful lark it was, being no less than a Georgia barbecue tendered to the A. L. A. by the Cold Springs 'Cue Club, at its woodland club-house, some 15 miles out of

Atlanta. The train left the Kimball House station at 2.20, and by three o'clock the A. L. A. was holding a special session in the woods about the club-house, around the long trenches of hickory coals, over which hung the laden spits, appetizingly fragrant, or down in the cool spring house, in the subterranean regions of the club. Later the company gathered about long tables ranged around the open sides of the club-house, and discussed the respective merits of "shote" and lamb, Brunswick stew and cold beer—which together are classified as barbecue—turning from that to the consideration of the "sure enough" coon dance, which had been promised them two years before at Philadelphia, and which more than fulfilled anticipations. Then came a little speech-making, when H. C. Stoddell, president of the club, spoke in cordial welcome to the visitors; then Mrs. Moore, better known as "Aunt Betsy Hamilton," gave a remarkable original character sketch in negro dialect; and finally the A. L. A. adjourned to the hillside, where a group photograph was taken, which is reproduced elsewhere.\*

The evening was given up to section meetings. The College and Reference Section held its second session in the assembly hall. Dr. Richardson, the chairman, opening the program with a paper on "Co-operation in lending among college and reference libraries," which pointed out the difficulties met with in research work, owing to the lack of material. These difficulties, the speaker thought, might be overcome by four methods of co-operation, *i.e.*, co-operation in cataloging, in purchase, in specialization, and in lending; and he gave a careful analysis of the means by which such co-operation might be developed. The discussion was opened by G. F. Danforth, of Indiana University, who spoke with special reference to the needs of the average college of the middle west, and referred to a letter of inquiry respecting the desirability of inter-library loans that he had recently sent out to the colleges of that section. The replies received showed widespread interest in the subject, and he suggested as a step toward some uniform lending system the preparation of a co-operative list of books and serials that would be ordinarily available for such use. The discussion was general and suggestive; among those who spoke were S. S. Green, Mr. Elmendorf, J. I. Wyer, Miss Lord, Dr. Billings, and Dr. Richardson, and there seemed general agreement that some method of systematizing inter-library loans must be before long worked out. "The library and the small college" was treated by George T. Little, of Bowdoin, in a most helpful paper based upon the premise that "the library is the centre and soul of the small college," and pointing out the many ways in which the library might become a vital part of the student's life and work. H. N. Bullard, of Park College, Parkville, Mo., read a short paper on "Directing growth in the small college library by weed-

\* See L. J., March, p. 102.

\* Copies of this photograph may be had at \$1.50 each by addressing the photographers, Moore & Stephenson, 34 Whitehall st., Atlanta, Ga.

ing out books," and Dr. Billings spoke briefly of his personal reminiscences of college days and of the uselessness of attempting to "guide" one who has an insatiate thirst for reading.

The State and Law Libraries Section, Johnson Brigham, state librarian of Iowa presiding, met in one of the small parlors, where the first paper read was by Mr. Brigham on "The state librarian's outlook." This was a summary of the library legislation enacted in the various states within the last year, pointing out defects and advantages, and looking forward into the probable future development of the functions of the state library. Mr. Dewey followed with a talk on the "Dangers of over-organization," giving words of caution against too much machinery for too little purpose, and W. E. Henry presented the report of the special committee on public documents, giving valuable statistical material on the subject, and prefaced by a short paper discussing the proper functions of a state library and emphasizing its importance as a depository for research and record rather than as a centre of missionary effort. Short reports from the various state libraries represented at the meeting followed, and it was late before the section closed its session, to hold an adjourned meeting on the following evening.

#### THIRD DAY.

On Thursday morning the regular session was preceded by a hearing given by the committee on constitutional revision in the desire to receive definite suggestions and criticisms that might be of service in preparing its report to the conference. This desire was so generally responded to that the discussion evoked was cut short only when the president had called the general meeting to order at 10 o'clock, and presented an invitation from M. Otlet, secretary of the Institut International de Bibliographie of Brussels, inviting the A. L. A. to participate in the bibliographical congress to be held in Paris in 1900. The invitation was referred to the advisory committee on exhibit for the Paris Exposition. A letter from A. W. Sijthoff, of Leyden, was read, regarding the valuable series of facsimiles of ancient manuscripts in process of publication by him; and announcement was made that, owing to the transfer of the association to Lithia Springs, the election of officers would be held that evening from 8 o'clock to 10, J. I. Wyer and W. R. Eastman being appointed tellers.

Mr. Bowker offered a resolution recording the appreciation felt by the American Library Association for the principle recognized by the President of the United States in his appointment of a Librarian of Congress, which was referred to the committee on resolutions, to be reported back at a later session.

The report of the co-operation committee, presented by T. L. Montgomery, chairman, marked the beginning of the morning's program, which had been planned by that committee to bring out the various aspects of and opportunities for co-operative library work. The report was an admirable survey of the field,

touching upon the work done in the preparation of union lists of periodicals and union catalogs, the library art club of the Massachusetts Library Club, the various efforts toward collection of statistical information regarding libraries through state or local associations, and similar lines of work. It included also a report from the Illinois State Library School, reviewing the activities of the past year; and showed an amount of work and careful investigation on the part of the committee that deserved sincere appreciation. Dr. Adler described the proceedings of the second conference on an international catalog of scientific literature, held in London in 1898,\* and presented also the report of the special committee appointed by the A. L. A. to secure aid from Congress for this catalog, which recommended the adoption of a resolution urging the importance of the matter upon Congress, and asked also that individual members of the A. L. A. endeavor to secure favorable Congressional action. The report was accepted, and it was voted "That the American Library Association respectfully urges upon Congress the appropriation of a sufficient sum to enable the United States to be worthily represented in the proposed international catalog of scientific literature."

A "Report on prison and home libraries in Chicago," by Hervey White, of the John Crerar Library, was presented by Miss Ahern, and accepted without reading. The subject of duplication in bibliographic work was brought up by Mrs. Fairchild, who spoke of the need of some method of registering bibliographical work undertaken by students, so that the waste of time and strength in doing what already has been done might be avoided. On Mrs. Fairchild's motion it was voted that the executive board be requested to consider this matter and formulate and put into operation a working plan which should safeguard against such duplication.

F. J. Teggart, of the Mechanics' Institute Library, San Francisco, spoke on a "Plan for a handbook of American libraries," basing his suggestions on the scheme outlined in his article in the LIBRARY JOURNAL for December, 1897. He considered it practicable to prepare from material obtained from individual libraries or through co-operative work on the part of library associations, a handbook that should give information concerning all American libraries, their origins, legislation affecting them, endowments, equipment, special collections, etc., with record of publications by and concerning each library. Such a handbook was now in process of publication for California, and the speaker thought that the complete work might well be prepared in time for presentation as part of the American library exhibit at the Paris exposition. On recommendation it was voted that a committee be appointed by the executive board to consider the expediency of compiling a handbook of American libraries, and to compile such handbook if that be thought desirable.

\* See L. J., December, 1898, p. 665.

Miss E. E. Davis spoke briefly of the proposed issue, by Harper & Bros., of printed catalog slips to accompany their publications, and asked support of the enterprise. Mr. Crunden then took the floor as chairman of the committee on constitutional revision, and asked for expressions of opinion on definite questions that should guide the committee in submitting its final draft. The opinions were expressed by votes on the questions submitted, and evidenced a considerable change of mind from the suggestions received by the committee at the previous conference and during the year. The suggested recognition of affiliated organizations was voted down, as was the similar recognition of sections other than the Publishing Section; the extension of the council in size and powers was approved, as was the suggested election of officers on nominations prepared by the council, which should include any general nominations. It was recommended that the constitution be cut down to the most compact form practicable, and that detailed provisions be left for the by-laws.

"Co-operative lists of periodicals and transactions of societies" were discussed by C. W. Andrews, who referred to the work done in conjunction by the five libraries working in connection with the Publishing section, and pointed out lines of improvement and extension. John Thomson followed with an account of the "Plan for a co-operative list of incunabula," undertaken by the Free Library of Philadelphia, which should give clue to the incunabula contained in American libraries, with special reference to its presentation at the quin-centenary celebration of Gutenberg, to be held in Mainz in 1901, and asked the co-operation of all librarians who could be of service in the matter. "The St. Gall conference upon the preservation and repair of ancient manuscripts" was briefly described by Dr. Herbert Friedenwald; William Beer gave a synopsis of his extended "Report on aids and guides"; and Mr. Whitney, of the Boston Public Library, read a valuable and suggestive paper on the "Proposed issue of a printed catalog of the Boston Public Library," pointing out the almost insuperable difficulties in the way of such an achievement, and analyzing the similar enterprises undertaken by the great libraries of the world; he showed that such a catalog would require 30 volumes of 1000 pages each, and would cost \$200,000, in addition to the 16 years of time that would be required for the work incident to cataloging.

It was late when the session adjourned and the convention scattered, to reassemble at half-past two at the Equitable building, where trolley cars were in waiting. A delightful trip through the city followed, out to the Piedmont Driving Club, where again the most graceful hospitality awaited the visitors. After wandering about the attractive grounds of the club—which form part of the exposition grounds of 1895—the assembly gathered in the club-house, where they were welcomed by Mr. Knowles, the president of the club, to whose remarks Mr. Putnam

made a happy response. Miss Wallace's name, as usual, awakened general enthusiasm. Mrs. W. B. Lowe, president of the Federation of Women's Clubs, made a delightful little speech, and finally Mrs. Moore again held the company intent with her remarkable rendition of an Alabama mountain character sketch.

The Kimball House was reached again soon after seven, and after dinner sessions of the Elementary Section, the Large Libraries Section, and the State and Law Libraries Section were held. The former had a small meeting, at which three subjects—"Organization," by Dr. Wire, "Changing a subscription to a free library," by Miss M. B. Lindsay, and "Management," by Miss M. W. Freeman—were presented and discussed. The Large Libraries Section, over which Mr. Brett presided, was well attended and extremely interesting, the subject of "Library organization" being opened with a consideration of the duties of "The librarian," by John Thomson, who was followed by Dr. Hosmer with a helpful paper on "The assistant librarian," and by Mr. Anderson with practical suggestions for "Department organization." There was an animated cross-fire of question and comment, and, late as it was, no flagging of interest was evident. In the State and Law Section the time was given to further reports of progress from the various state library representatives present; while throughout the evening the polls were open in the parlor lobby for the election of officers.

#### FOURTH DAY.

The transfer of the association to Lithia Springs on Friday morning disarranged the original program, and it was not until 12 o'clock—when the conference was peacefully settled in the cool and pleasant precincts of the Sweetwater Park Hotel at Lithia—that the business of the day was taken up. In calling the meeting to order President Lane announced that the papers left over from Thursday's session would first be considered, leaving an hour in the afternoon for the discussion of open shelves and two hours for the Large Libraries Section, with the evening for the constitutional revision report, resolution, etc.

The election of officers was then announced as follows: *President*: Reuben G. Thwaites; *Secretary*: Henry J. Carr; *Treasurer*: Gardner M. Jones; *Recorder*: Helen E. Haines; *Vice-presidents*: Edwin H. Anderson, Mary W. Plummer, Ernest C. Richardson; *A. L. A. Council*: John S. Billings, William C. Lane, Clement W. Andrews, Electra C. Doren; *Trustee of Endowment Fund*: John M. Glenn.

President Lane announced that the committee on library credentials, appointed to report to the executive board, reported progress and desired to be continued, and then called upon Mr. Beer for his paper on "Libraries in the Gulf states." This was an admirable summary of a not very encouraging condition of affairs, the libraries noted being chiefly state libraries, neither well equipped nor effectively developed, and the public libraries being few in number. Florida was reported as the most badly off; Louisiana, in New Orleans at least, was reach-

\* See L. J., Feb., p. 61.

ing forward to better things; and in Texas a present wave of library interest held promise of effective results. There was some discussion, in which Dr. Adler spoke of the library of Telfair Academy of Arts and Sciences at Savannah, Ga., and its precious collection of Oriental manuscripts. A paper on "Cheap book postage as a factor in library development," by Rev. W. Scott, of the New England Education League, was read by T. F. Currier, and aroused considerable discussion. It was a plea for extending second-class postal rates to library books, on well-presented economic, educational, civic, and social grounds, and on motion of Mr. Mann it was voted that the executive board be directed to appoint a committee to report upon the subject at the meeting to be held in 1900. Adjournment was then taken.

At 3.10 the meeting was called to order for what proved to be one of the interesting and stimulating sessions of the conference—the discussion on open shelves. Originally limited to an hour, it was extended by unanimous vote for a half hour further, and it would have been gratifying to all could this limit have been made still more elastic. The chief speakers on the subject were Messrs. Brett, Hill, and Thomson, a paper by Mr. S. S. Green being accepted without reading in his absence; but the session was, in fact, an "experience meeting," one speaker following another and many rising simultaneously to join in the comparison of opinions and experiences. Among those foremost in contributions to the discussion were Mr. Crunden, Mrs. Sanders, Mr. Elmendorf, Dr. Hosmer, and Mr. Parsons, and methods of free access, modified access, selected access, and other variations of the theme were tossed to and fro in animated discussion. It was gratifying, in view of the bitter warfare injected into English library ranks by the introduction of the access question, to note the entire good temper with which the American advocates and opponents of the plan met and held discourse—advocates and opponents, indeed, is too strong a term, for there were none who did not recognize the value of some form of contact between the reader and the books, and the session gave interesting proof of that development of liberality of thought that is one of the most marked features of the present library movement. Losses, consequent upon open access, were generally admitted and freely commented upon, but the opinion among those who had adopted the open shelves seemed to be that the actual saving in administrative expenses more than covered the cost of such loss. Votes were taken as follows upon questions: How many favor practically unlimited access for large libraries? 10. How many favor practically unrestricted access for small libraries? 50 (practically a unanimous vote). How many are opposed to practically unrestricted access in large libraries? 32. How many prefer free access to a selected collection? 48.

Immediately following this session came the final meeting of the Large Libraries Section, conducted by Mr. Brett and Dr. Steiner. This was opened by a short talk on "Assistants" by H. L. Elmendorf, which aroused helpful dis-

cussion; Miss E. C. Doren read a paper on "Statistics and reports"; and "Library extension in schools" was treated in a capital talk by Miss Stearns, full of suggestion and practical helpfulness. This topic of library extension was subdivided into various branches, of which that dealing with "High schools" was presented in a paper by Miss Plummer, which, in her absence, was read by title; Mr. Crunden spoke on extension as carried on "in stations"; Miss Eastman's paper on the same subject "in branches" and A. E. Bostwick's on extension "in home libraries" were accepted without reading, owing to the lateness of the hour, and the session adjourned, after recommending that a message of sympathy be sent by the association to A. W. Whelpley, seriously ill at his home in Cincinnati, and requesting that the executive board continue the present officers of the section.

A meeting of the Trustees' Section, conducted by Dr. Leipziger, was held on the veranda of the hotel, at which Dr. Leipziger was chosen as chairman and T. L. Montgomery as secretary of the section for the ensuing year. After discussion it was voted to request the executive board to devote one general session of the next conference to topics of particular interest to trustees as well as librarians; that circulars be issued to each library containing a brief résumé of such matters as might be interesting to trustees, and that the chairman be requested to prepare such a circular with the co-operation of Mr. Bowker; and that two months prior to the next conference a circular be sent to trustees, urging that the librarian and one trustee at least be sent to the conference at the expense of the library.

The final session of the conference was opened at 8.30 on Friday evening, and the rapid disposition of the miscellaneous business awaiting attention raised fair hopes of a prompt adjournment. The first subject was place of next meeting, Mr. Anderson presenting for the committee a recommendation that the association accept the invitation tendered by the governors of McGill University to meet in Montreal in 1900. The recommendation was adopted by a unanimous vote. An invitation was received from the authorities and libraries of Buffalo, inviting the A. L. A. to meet in that city in 1901, and it was voted that the thanks of the association be extended with word that the subject be considered at the next conference. Dr. Leipziger submitted the resolutions adopted by the Trustees' Section, which on motion were referred to the executive board; and the vote of the Large Libraries Section for a message of sympathy to Mr. Whelpley was presented and adopted.

The report of the committee on constitutional revision was then introduced by Mr. Crunden, and as its consideration began, hopes of ultimate adjournment faded away. Mr. Dewey opened the discussion by moving that before adopting the report as a whole the committee be authorized to make merely verbal changes not affecting the meaning of the constitution. This was adopted, and the draft prepared by the committee was then presented, section by section,

for adoption, consideration, or amendment. It was 12.30 Saturday morning before the last section was disposed of, so that for nearly four hours it was in session, and the revised draft submitted by the committee was subjected to a cross-fire of amendments, counter-amendments, and substitutes, from which it finally emerged, condensed and modified, but with less radical alterations than might have been expected. Driven from the assembly hall by the protests of the Terpsichorean Section, the session re-assembled in one of the small parlors, where its labors were finally carried through. The constitution as adopted followed quite closely the lines of the present constitution, save in its extension of the powers of the council, which was made a body of 32 members (including the executive board), and to which the administration of the association was practically referred. Provision was also made for a salaried secretary, eligible for re-election to a three-year term of office, who should be the active executive officer of the association. It was voted that all matter in the old constitution not contained in the sections adopted be stricken out; and it was also voted that the committee be continued until it report to the executive board a final draft of the amended constitution; and that the executive board be instructed to submit the amendments, as reported to it by the committee, to competent legal authority in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, the matter to be presented in final form to the next conference.

The committee on resolutions presented its report, expressing the thanks of the association to the authorities and citizens of Atlanta, to T. H. Martin, the trustees of the Young Men's Library, and to all its kindly hosts for their unfailing courtesy and hospitality; and conveying to Miss Anne Wallace the special assurance of its gratitude and appreciation for the time and energy and tact given by her to make the conference a success. The report was adopted by a unanimous vote; and the resolution previously submitted by Mr. Bowker was also passed, placing on record the association's appreciation of the principle recognized by the President of the United States in his selection of a Librarian of Congress, "that fitness, training, and experience should determine the choice of those charged with the administration of libraries." Adjournment was taken at 12.40 a.m., and thus the last working day of the Atlanta conference came literally to an early end.

On Saturday the breaking up of the company began, some of the western members remaining at Lithia, and others returning to Atlanta to later join the post-conference party on its way to Lookout. For the eastern delegates and those who joined them there followed a varied and delightful post-conference, beginning at noon on Saturday, and including Sunday at Lookout Mountain, Monday at Chattanooga and through to Knoxville, Tuesday at Natural Bridge and Luray, and Wednesday at Washington, bringing them home rested, refreshed, and with a store of pleasant memories to lighten the busy days to come.

H. E. H.

#### THE BARBECUE.

Talk not of Imperialism feast or Dionysian orgy  
To men who've seen a barbecue as it is seen in "Georgy";  
None but those old ambrosial foods, those old Olympian  
revivants.

Where potent nectars toppled gods from perpendicular  
levels;

Give us the Georgia barbecue where staid and bland grew  
boisterous

And cold Librarians thawed out into tumultuous roy-  
stersers;

Where all was glad hilarity with only one demer —

The Pennsylvanians' anguished wail that told how dry  
they were.

Talk not of hundred-dollar plates at metropolitan ban-  
quets —

Give us the Georgia barbecue that neither maid nor man  
quits,

Where northern closeness feels the touch of southern  
prodigality.

And northern coldness knows the warmth of Dixie's  
hospitality;

Where woodland chefs by mighty works proclaim their  
great proficiency.

And filled-up mortals know for once the meaning of suffi-  
ciency;

Where peptic possibilities are adequately gauged —

And e'en the Pennsylvanian thirst grows sated and  
assuaged.

SAM WALTER FOSS.

#### CONFERENCE NOTES.

It was interesting to note how representative the conference was as a gathering of library workers from all parts of the country. Maine, Vermont, South Carolina, Mississippi, Tennessee, Texas, Nebraska, Colorado, and California were among the states represented, in addition to many familiar names from more central points. The Minneapolis Public Library had perhaps the banner delegation, six of the staff being in attendance. From Denver Mr. Dudley brought the news of the passage of the Colorado library commission bill, and from Texas four delegates bore witness to the library interest awakening in that state.

A useful feature of the meeting was the A. L. A. bulletin board, placed outside the assembly hall, in which information of interest to delegates was promptly given. If the announcements presented had only been consulted before instead of, as was usually the case, after the events there scheduled had taken place its effectiveness would have been increased.

The local press gave special attention to the meeting, reporting each day's proceedings at length and presenting interesting experiments in portraiture. It was through this medium that the members were concerned to learn that Mr. Putnam had arrived at Atlanta in ill health, being accompanied by his physicians; they were, however, relieved to know later that the physicians in question were Dr. Billings and Dr. Wire.

The A. L. A. exhibit, held in the parlors of the Kimball, though small, was interesting and well arranged. Specially suggestive were the picture bulletins sent by the New York Free



Circulating, the Aguilar, and other libraries, the collections from Philadelphia and Albany, and the various photographs of library buildings. In connection with the latter the fine collection of lantern views of library buildings prepared by Mr. Soule had a special interest, and there was general disappointment that limitations of time made it impossible for these to be presented in detail at the public meeting on Tuesday evening. The slides then shown included types of antiquated library architecture in the University of Leyden (16th or 17th century), the Vatican library, and the Logonian Library of Philadelphia; types of libraries for small towns as the Pequot Library of Southport, Ct., and the New London (Ct.) Public Library; types of the busy city library, in excellent views of the Philadelphia Free Library; and types of recent buildings in the plans of the new Pawtucket Public Library, the Pratt Institute, Providence and Newark buildings. Special architectural arrangements were illustrated by views of the Newbery, the New York State Library, the New York Public Library, the Chicago and Boston libraries, and the Library of Congress; and the series closed with a fine view of the reading-room of the British Museum.

Y.

#### TRANSACTIONS OF EXECUTIVE BOARD.

Meetings of the executive board of the A. L. A. were held on May 9, May 10, and May 13, sessions of both the outgoing and incoming boards being held on the latter date.

At the meeting of May 10 it was voted that the Publishing Section be authorized to send 100 copies of the proceedings of the Atlanta Conference to such southern libraries as might be indicated to them. The advisory committee on A. L. A. exhibit at Paris Exposition was appointed as follows: W. T. Peoples, Miss A. R. Hasse, C. W. Andrews.

At the meeting of May 13 the treasurer submitted the names of 17 persons not engaged in library work, who were applicants for membership and who were duly elected. The committee on cheap book postage was appointed as follows: A. H. Chase, Dr. J. K. Hosmer, Miss Olive L. Jones. The committee on transliteration of Slavic languages, to continue the subject, was also named, as S. A. Chevalier, and Professors Coolidge and Burbeen.

The executive board for 1899-1900 held a short session, when the plans for the Montreal meeting were discussed. It was recommended that that meeting be held on or about the first week in June, 1900. Committee appointments were made as follows: Finance committee (Whitney, Bolton, Little), continued; Public documents committee (Bowker, Hasse, Henry, Beer), continued; Foreign documents (Gould, Andrews, Gilmore, Bain), continued; Committee on library tracts, Miss Haines, Miss Plummer, with power to appoint an additional member; Committee on co-operation with N. E. A., J. C. Dana, Melvil Dewey, F. A. Hutchins. Further organization of committees, etc., will be made at the next meeting of the board, in October.

HENRY J. CARR, *Secretary*.

#### A. L. A. PUBLISHING SECTION.

##### A. L. A. PROCEEDINGS.

ALL the back numbers of the proceedings of the A. L. A. have recently been turned over to the Publishing Section in accordance with the vote of the association. The Publishing Section can now supply copies of the proceedings for all years beginning with 1883, except for the year 1888. The price for all years for which an ample supply is still on hand has been fixed at \$1. Of the years 1886, 1892, and 1893, less than 10 copies remain, and these will be sold for \$2.50 each. Of the years 1885, 1890, 1891, and 1896, less than 25 copies remain, and the price of these has been fixed at \$2, which will be raised to \$2.50 when only 10 copies are left. The price of the other years will also be raised to \$2 when the stock is reduced to 25 copies.

Application should be made to the A. L. A. Publishing Section, 10½ Beacon st., Boston.

#### State Library Commissions.

CONNECTICUT F. P. L. COMMITTEE: Caroline M. Hewins, secretary, Public Library, Hartford, Ct.

DENVER LIBRARY COMMISSION. The bill providing for a state library commission, which has been pending in the Denver legislature for some years past, was passed in April, and on May 6 the governor appointed the following members: Ralph Talbot, Denver, one year; C. R. Dudley, Denver, two years; C. B. Seldomridge, Colorado Springs, three years; George R. Elder, Leadville, four years; George M. Lee, Denver, five years. There is no salary appropriation, but \$1000 annually is allowed for clerical assistance.

GEORGIA LIBRARY COMMISSION: Miss Anne Wallace, secretary, Young Men's Library, Atlanta, Ga.

INDIANA STATE LIBRARY COMMISSION: W. E. Henry, secretary, State Library, Indianapolis.

MASSACHUSETTS STATE L. COMMISSION: Miss E. P. Sohler, secretary, Beverly.

NEW HAMPSHIRE STATE L. COMMISSION: J. H. Whittier, secretary, East Rochester.

NEW YORK: Public Libraries Division, State University, Melvil Dewey, director, Albany.

OHIO STATE L. COMMISSION: C. B. Galbreath, secretary, State Library, Columbus.

PENNSYLVANIA LIBRARY COMMISSION. The bill providing for a state library commission for Pennsylvania, which for several successive years has been brought up in the legislature, was passed at the recent final session, and was signed by the governor on May 4. It includes no appropriation for clerical work or expenses, but through the aid assured by those most interested in it, it will make possible a definite beginning in library extension in the state.

**VERMONT LIBRARY COMMISSION:** Miss M. L. Titcomb, secretary, Goodrich Memorial Library, Newport.

At a meeting of the Vermont Library Commission, held at St. Johnsbury on March 31, the applications of eight towns for libraries were considered and allowed. It was reported that four or five other towns had taken favorable action in the process of securing libraries under the new law at the last town meeting, but had not yet presented applications. The subject of travelling libraries was also discussed.

**WISCONSIN F. L. COMMISSION:** F. A. Hutchins, secretary, Madison; Miss L. E. Stearns, librarian, Milwaukee.

The efficiency and powers of the commission have been extended by the passage of a bill (332 S) introduced into the legislature in February, which increased the appropriation awarded to the commission and defines for it additional duties. The bill provides that the commission be empowered "to conduct a summer school of library science in connection with the summer school of the University of Wisconsin, and to hold librarians' institutes in various parts of the state in order to train librarians of public, school, and travelling libraries to make wiser and more effective use of the libraries in their charge. The commission is also authorized to accept, arrange, and circulate books, travelling libraries and pictures to be loaned to public libraries, travelling library associations, study clubs, farming communities, charitable and penal institutions, and individuals, under such conditions and restrictions as shall make them of the greatest good to the greatest number. In order to care for such travelling libraries, to bind periodicals for them, to encourage the growth of study clubs in connection with them, to train librarians to be better educators, to aid more efficiently in the proper organization of new libraries, and to aid in building up a better system of popular education, there is annually appropriated to the commission, "in addition to such sums as have been heretofore appropriated, the sum of \$3500, and any balance not expended in any one year may be added to the expenditure for any ensuing year."

### State Library Associations.

#### CALIFORNIA LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.

**President:** F. J. Teggart, Mechanics' Institute Library, San Francisco.

**Secretary:** R. E. Cowan, 829 Mission Street, San Francisco.

**Treasurer:** Miss Emily I. Wade, Public Library, San Francisco.

The regular meeting of the Library Association of California was held March 10, 1899, at the San Francisco Free Public Library, President F. J. Teggart in the chair. The president spoke briefly of the forthcoming "California number" of *Public Libraries*. Mr. G. T. Clark suggested that the annual publication of the association, which is about to be prepared, be

preferably a directory of libraries, with some historical statistics, etc., and that a committee of publication be appointed. The recent decease of Frederic Beecher Perkins, sometime of the San Francisco Free Public Library, was mentioned, and the secretary advised to enter notice upon the minutes. Mr. Herman Shepherd was elected to membership.

A valuable paper upon the Bancroft Library was read by Mr. J. C. Rowell, of Berkeley. The subject was well treated both from the standpoint of a librarian and a bookman. Mr. Kimball gave an account of the work going on among various county libraries, stating that a public library will be established at Hanford, Cal., and that a literary and social circle has been organized in Watsonville, Cal., to aid the library of that place. Mr. Rowell called attention to the "Bibliography of ancient libraries" prepared by Mr. Teggart and recently published in the *LIBRARY JOURNAL*.

By the kindness of the Sketch Club of San Francisco, the members of the Library Association were invited to attend a lecture by a fellow-member, Prof. William Dallas Armes, at the rooms of the club, on March 30. The subject was "Mediæval illuminated manuscripts." It was treated in a complete and very entertaining manner by the speaker, and was much appreciated. A large number of colored facsimiles of mss. of various countries and ages were shown, together with some fine originals. The meeting, which was entirely informal, took the place of the usual April meeting.

ROBERT E. COWAN, *Secretary*.

#### COLORADO LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.

**President:** A. E. Whitaker, State University Library, Boulder.

**Secretary:** Herbert E. Richie, City Library, Denver.

**Treasurer:** J. W. Chapman, McClelland Library, Pueblo.

#### CONNECTICUT LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.

**President:** W. J. James, Wesleyan University Library, Middletown.

**Secretary:** Miss J. S. Heydrick, Pequot Library, Southport.

**Treasurer:** Miss Alice T. Cummings, Public Library, Hartford.

#### GEORGIA LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.

**President:** Miss Anne Wallace, Young Men's Library, Atlanta.

**Secretary-Treasurer:** C. W. Hubner, Atlanta.

#### ILLINOIS STATE LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.

**President:** E. S. Willcox, Public Library, Peoria.

**Secretary:** Miss M. E. Ahern, Public Libraries, 215 Madison St., Chicago.

**Treasurer:** Mrs. Josephine Resor, Public Library, Canton.

#### INDIANA LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.

**President:** W. E. Henry, State Library, Indianapolis.

**Secretary:** Miss Belle S. Hanna, Public Library, Greencastle.

**Treasurer:** Miss Jessie Allen, Public Library, Indianapolis.

*IOWA STATE LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.*

*President:* W. H. Johnston, Public Library, Fort Dodge.

*Secretary and Treasurer:* Miss Ella McLoney, Public Library, Des Moines.

*MAINE LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.*

*President:* E. W. Hall, Colby University, Waterville.

*Treasurer:* Prof. G. T. Little, Bowdoin College, Brunswick.

*MASSACHUSETTS LIBRARY CLUB.*

*President:* W. H. Tillinghast, Harvard University Library.

*Secretary:* H. C. Wellman, Public Library, Brookline.

*Treasurer:* Miss Margaret D. McGuffy, Public Library, Boston.

The spring meeting of the Massachusetts Library Club was held April 18 in Dedham. The Hon. Winslow Warren, chairman of the trustees, Dedham Public Library, was to have given the address of welcome, but important business detained him, and Mr. Tillinghast read a letter from him instead.

Mr. Frederic Jesup Stimson, author of "King Noanett" and other novels, was the chief speaker of the morning. He said he was led to choose American fiction for his theme after reading in an Omaha paper an editorial deploring the absence of good American fiction, and asking why we could not write as good novels as Meredith, Kipling, Hope, Doyle, etc. The book reviews were devoted to the rank and file of English novels. The whole tendency was to magnify the English at the expense of the American. It was Dickens' jest that we were proud of what we were doing, and Mr. Stimson thought that was much more healthful. In fact, he thought we were getting laughable for our snobbery. These forced tendencies are to be fought by novels, and it is therefore important to cultivate an American school to affect the manners of Americans. Mr. Stimson gave three reasons for this state of things: 1. Snobbery—the desire to copy the English; 2. Lack of criticism; 3. Our forgetfulness that writing is an art. Publishers issue too many bad novels with no message and no style. He would have librarians differentiate between books with a style and those without. He also suggested that librarians should encourage the reading of good old books.

Several librarians then testified that they were using every device to get people to read the old books instead of the new.

Then began the discussion of the books of 1898, using as a basis the list of 500 books issued by the University of the State of New York. Dr. G. E. Wire, of the Worcester County Law Library, began with the reference books and useful arts. He criticised the list as too uneven, it being a jumble of expensive and very cheap books. Of the books in the reference list he specially commended Harbottle's "Dictionary of quotations." The useful art list he would extend by more hygiene and sanitation.

Rev. W. L. Ropes considered the books in

Philosophy and Religion. The list of philosophy he thought good, but omitted some titles which the small library could profitably do without. The amended list was: Baldwin, Story of the mind; Hibben, Problems of philosophy; Mosher, Child culture in the home; Royce, Studies of good and evil; Taylor, Study of the child. The religion he also reduced to Lang, Making of religion; Smith, Life of Drummond; Waterman, Post-apostolic age.

Mr. Don Gleason Hill closed the morning session by giving a sketch of Historic Dedham. The members then visited the library and other points of interest.

The afternoon session was a continuation of the books of 1898. Mr. Wellman read a paper on the social science books from Miss Mary H. Rollins, of the Boston Public Library, who was unable to be present. Mr. John Murdoch, of the Boston Public Library, said that the worst that could be said of any of the books in natural science was that they were less desirable than the others; they were all good.

Fiction was ably presented by Mrs. Eben Dale, of Boston. 13 titles she unhesitatingly recommended as follows: Bayly, Hope the hermit; Deland, Old Chester tales; French, Heart of toil; Fuller, One of the pilgrims; Kipling, Day's work; Mitchell, Adventure of François; Ollivant, Bob, son of Battle; Page, Red rock; Parker, Battle of the strong; Roberts, A sister to Evangeline; Smith, Caleb West; Westcott, David Harum; White, Lover of truth. The following five she considered hardly worthy the small library: Crowninshield, Where the trade wind blows; Ford, Tattle tales of Cupid; Larned, Rembrandt; Riis, Out of Mulberry street; Poor, Boston neighbors.

Emery, How to enjoy pictures, Mr. C. K. Bolton, of the Boston Athenæum, thought was the one book on the fine art list for the small library.

From the music list Miss Hooper, of the Brookline Public Library, omitted two titles—Blackburn, Fringe of an art, and Mathews, The masters and their music.

Miss C. H. Garland, of the Dover, N. H., Public Library, spoke of literature in her usual delightful style. She divided the books into three classes: 1, Those intended to stimulate thought and imagination; 2, Books of information; 3, Books for amusement. Brandes' Shakespeare, in her estimation, is the best book on the list. She added Hewlett, Earthwork out of Tuscany, and "Mr. Dooley." The poetry she considered less noteworthy this year.

Mr. John Ritchie, jr., of the Appalachian Mountain Club, discussed the books of description and travel. From his point of view, Colquhoun, China in transformation, is the leading book of the year, and Hedin, Through Asia, the best volume of exploration. He would omit Declé, Three years in savage Africa.

The superintendent of schools in Dedham, Mr. R. W. Hine, spoke of the books in education. He specially commended Eliot, Educational reform; Oppenheim, Development of the

child; Warner, Study of children; and Hinsdale's Life of Horace Mann.

The foreign history was discussed by Mr. W. Dawson Johnston, who annotated the English history titles issued by the A. L. A. Publishing Section. Four books he specially recommended: Blok, History of the people of the Netherlands; Bodley, France; Butterworth, South America; Langlois and Seignobos, Introduction to the study of history. To these he added the lives of Bismarck; Parnell, by O'Brien; and Marie Antoinette, by Tschudi.

Mr. George P. Winship, of the John Carter Brown Library, Providence, R. I., swept the list by saying that there was not one book on the list which any library would regret not having purchased.

The meeting was closed by Miss Sargent on juvenile books. She recommended the following: Brooks, Master of the strong hearts, and Son of the revolution; Butterworth, Pilot of the *Mayflower*; Carpenter, Travels through Asia; Chapin, Wonder tales from Wagner; Church, Heroes of chivalry and romance; E., Story of little Jane and me; Holbrook, Hiawatha primer; Holder, Treasure divers; Ingersoll, Book of the ocean; Inman, Rancho on the Oxhide; Kaler, *Charming Sally*; Keyser, News from the birds; Morris, Historical tales; Ober, Crusoe's island; Pierson, Among the forest people; Pyle, Counterpane fairy; Ragozin, Siegfried and Beowulf; Tomlinson, Stories of the American revolution; Wright, Four-footed Americans. She discarded Rhoden, An obstinate maid, Ross, Heroes of our war with Spain.

NINA E. BROWNE, Recorder.

#### WESTERN MASSACHUSETTS LIBRARY CLUB.

*President:* C. A. Cutter, Forbes Library, Northampton.

*Secretary:* Miss Alice Shepard, City Library, Springfield.

*Treasurer:* Miss M. M. Robison, Public Library, Amherst.

The Western Massachusetts Library Club held a joint meeting for librarians and teachers at the Normal School at Westfield, Monday, April 10, 1899. There was a large attendance, and both morning and afternoon sessions were interesting and instructive. The morning session opened at 10.45. Herbert N. Kingsbury welcomed the members and their guests, and extended an invitation from the people of Westfield to lunch in the Parish House of the First Congregational Church at 12.30.

Louis N. Wilson, librarian of the Clark University, Worcester, delivered an address on the subject, "Is the public library doing all it can for the teacher?" In many respects, he thought, this question must be answered in the negative, although he referred to the apathy too often manifested by the teachers in regard to co-operative work with librarians. He emphasized the importance of a cordial and responsive attitude on the part of the librarian toward the public, and cited various instances of curtness and disregard of readers' requests, pleading for more provision for the needs of the public and the schools in library rules and administration.

An interesting discussion followed, led by Principal C. H. Keyes, of Holyoke. The session closed with a few remarks from S. S. Green, of Worcester.

The afternoon session opened at 2.15 with a business meeting, when article 7 of the constitution was amended to read "One delegate for every 15 members."

W. I. Fletcher, librarian of Amherst College, in his address on "A plea for the classics" said that while science teaching and manual training help to develop the imagination, they alone cannot do all the work. The more the schools turn to manual training the more must be done in an aesthetic line. Morals must be awakened, but we all know that this cannot be done wholly by text-books. Mr. Fletcher regretted that so many people thought of "education" as a means of a livelihood. Every one should be educated to the best of his ability, even if such education could not be used to pecuniary advantage. Our culture must teach self-sacrifice and restraint. Never were classics so needed as at the present time. The Hebrew scriptures stand in the first place in classics on account of their incomparable veracity. A cultured person should be educated in music, art, and literature. He realized that our schools are so crowded with the "three R's," together with science, music, art, and manual training, that no new study could be added; but he urged that the classics must be used along with other studies.

H. H. Ballard, librarian of the Berkshire Athenæum, Pittsfield, conducted the question-box, and lively discussion was called forth by some of the questions. The opinions of many present were expressed in favor of allowing the public access to the shelves of a library.

"The alphabet in the schools" was considered in a paper of facts, being mainly statistics which George Stockwell, of Northampton, had collected. Owing to Mr. Stockwell's absence the paper was read by Miss Winchell, assistant librarian of the Forbes Library of Northampton. Mr. Stockwell sent to superintendents or teachers in all towns of the four western counties of Massachusetts a circular containing questions relative to the teaching of the alphabet in the schools, and as to how many pupils of seventh grade (age, 12 or 13 years) could readily use books of reference. In the 104 towns in Western Massachusetts there are 67 superintendents, 52 of whom responded. All but 13 towns teach the alphabet in its sequence, all but eight teach the use of the dictionary, all but three teach the diacritical marks. Nine of the towns use reformed spelling. Most towns have a dictionary in each room, and in many each child is provided with one. Many towns teach the use of the index as well as the dictionary. It was brought out in the discussion which followed that the failure of children to use a catalog was due to lack of practice rather than knowledge, and was not the fault of the librarian or catalog. The simpler the catalog, however, the easier it is to use. Principal Charles S. Chapin, of the state normal school, led the discussion.

A vote of thanks was tendered to the people of Westfield for their hospitality.

The normal school and the new public library were open throughout for inspection during the day, and called forth words of commendation for their admirable appointments.

SARAH C. NELSON.

*MICHIGAN LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.*

*President:* H. M. Utley, Public Library, Detroit.

*Secretary:* Mrs. A. F. McDonnell, Bay City.

*Treasurer:* Miss Geneviève M. Walton, Normal College Library, Ypsilanti.

*MINNESOTA LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.*

*President:* Dr. W. W. Folwell, State University, Minneapolis.

*Secretary:* Miss Gratia Countryman, Public Library, Minneapolis.

*Treasurer:* Miss Anne Hammond, Public Library, St. Paul.

*NEBRASKA LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.*

*President:* W. E. Jillson, Doane College, Crete.

*Secretary:* Miss Edith Tobitt, Public Library, Omaha.

*Treasurer:* Miss M. A. O'Brien, Public Library, Omaha.

*NEW HAMPSHIRE LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.*

*President:* A. H. Chase, Concord.

*Secretary:* Miss Grace Blanchard, Public Library, Concord.

*Treasurer:* Miss E. A. Pickering, Public Library, Newington.

*NEW JERSEY LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.*

*President:* F. P. Hill, Free Public Library, Newark.

*Secretary:* Miss Clara W. Hunt, Free Public Library, Newark.

*Treasurer:* Miss Cecelia C. Lambert, Public Library, Passaic.

*NEW YORK LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.*

*President:* A. L. Peck, Public Library, Gloversville.

*Secretary:* W. R. Eastman, State Library, Albany.

*Treasurer:* J. N. Wing, Free Circulating Library, 226 W. 42d st., New York City.

*OHIO LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.*

*President:* Robinson Locke, Toledo.

*Secretary:* Charles Orr, Case Library, Cleveland.

*Treasurer:* Miss K. W. Sherwood, Public Library, Cincinnati.

*Fifth annual meeting:* Toledo, O., Aug. 9 and 10, 1899.

The library extension committee of the Ohio Library Association has taken up the work of obtaining full statistical information concerning the libraries of the state. Blank forms have been issued, requesting tabulation of all facts as to character, work, and staff of individual libraries, and it is asked that these be filled out and returned to Miss Alice Boardman, of the State Library, Columbus.

The association is also considering the advisability of a course of free lectures, probably

eight in number, to be given in four sessions in connection with the annual meeting at Toledo in August. These lectures will be introductory to and suggestive of the more thorough training of the library schools; they will point out the necessity of discipline, accuracy, and a thorough knowledge of library methods, and will consider fundamental library questions for the benefit of those who are beginning the work, or those who wish to review and refresh their knowledge of first principles. The topics will include classification, cataloging, charging systems, and the use of reference books. It is hoped to secure the interest of trustees, and library boards throughout the state are asked to encourage the attendance of junior assistants. The course will be given if a sufficient attendance is assured, and suggestions as to topics should be sent to Charles Orr, secretary Ohio Library Association, Case Library, Cleveland.

*PENNSYLVANIA LIBRARY CLUB.*

*President:* Dr. E. J. Nolan, Academy of Natural Sciences, Philadelphia.

*Secretary:* Miss Mary P. Farr, Philadelphia Normal School.

*Treasurer:* Miss Jean E. Graffen, Free Library of Philadelphia.

The April meeting of the Pennsylvania Library Club was held in the new lecture-room of the Free Library, on Thursday, April 27. It was an occasion of satisfaction, inasmuch as the large additions just completed at the library were ready for inspection, and much interest was taken in the departments for the blind, children and catalogers, and the new room for the collection of works on art and architecture, etc. Nine new members were elected, and after the conclusion of formal business of the evening Mr. Weir delivered an hour's very interesting address on the "Making of a newspaper," explaining in detail the methods of collecting news through the different agencies of the Associated Press, local and special reporters, etc., the different duties of the various departments in a newspaper office; and contrasted the preparation of the first number of the *Public Ledger*, a small four-paged paper, with the enormous size of the morning and Sunday papers. The *Ledger* was probably begun and completed with the aid of some half-dozen persons at the outside; the present morning newspaper requires the unintermitting industry of over 300 persons, many of whom are engaged from 12 to 14 hours a day in preparing the paper for publication.

*WESTERN PENNSYLVANIA LIBRARY CLUB.*

*President:* Miss Helen Sperry, Carnegie Library, Homestead.

*Secretary-Treasurer:* Miss Mary F. Macrum, Carnegie Library, Pittsburgh.

*VERMONT LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.*

*President:* Miss S. C. Hagar, Fletcher Free Library, Burlington.

*Secretary:* Miss M. L. Titcomb, Goodrich Memorial Library, Newport.

*Treasurer:* E. F. Holbrook, Proctor.

*WISCONSIN STATE LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.*

*President:* Mrs. Charles S. Morris, Berlin.  
*Secretary:* Miss Minnie M. Oakley, State Historical Society, Madison.  
*Treasurer:* Miss Nellie C. Silverthorn, Public Library, Wausau.

*NORTH WISCONSIN TRAVELLING LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.*

*President:* Mrs. E. E. Vaughn, Ashland.  
*Secretary and Treasurer:* Miss Janet Green, Vaughn Library, Ashland.

During last winter the association has had 13 or 14 libraries constantly in circulation, and has been unable to supply the demand for them. Its libraries are located in half a dozen counties, in small lumbering villages or farming hamlets, where they remain for four months before being replaced by a successor. An additional supply of libraries is greatly needed, and the association appeals for contributions of books and money to aid in carrying on the work. The membership fee is \$1 yearly, and an increased membership will greatly aid in extending the association's usefulness.

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### Library Clubs.

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*BAY PATH LIBRARY CLUB.*

*President:* Miss Helen S. Carter, Leicester, Mass.  
*Secretary:* C. H. Clark, West Brookfield, Mass.  
*Treasurer:* Miss Nellie A. Cutter, Spencer, Mass.

*LIBRARY CLUB OF BUFFALO.*

*President:* H. L. Elmendorf, Public Library.  
*Secretary-Treasurer:* Miss Elizabeth D. Renninger, Catholic Institute.

The Library Club of Buffalo met Wednesday evening, April 19, in the library rooms of the Buffalo Catholic Institute.

On motion, the following resolution was unanimously adopted:

*Resolved,* That the Library Club of Buffalo extend to the A. L. A. a cordial invitation to hold its annual meeting in the city of Buffalo during the Pan-American Exposition in 1901.

The first paper of the evening, on "Ancient libraries" (read by special request), was presented by Robert Fletcher, of the Buffalo Public Library.

The subject of the evening, "The child and the book; or, how the library and the school may help each other," was next taken up, and discussed from the teacher's standpoint by Miss Nellie S. Small, principal of School 15, and from the librarian's point of view by Mrs. H. L. Elmendorf. The subject was next discussed with a view to the best methods of aid in reference work by Mr. F. J. Shepard, of the Buffalo Public Library, Miss Somerville, of Masten Park High School, and Mr. Geo. E. Smith, principal of School 49. Perhaps the most interesting and helpful feature of the program was the general and lively discussion between the librarians and teachers present, brought out by the bright and suggestive papers read.

At the close of the program refreshments were served, after which the members of the club were escorted through the beautiful new building of the Buffalo Catholic Institute.

ELIZABETH D. RENNINGER, *Secretary.*

*CHICAGO LIBRARY CLUB.*

*President:* C. B. Roden, Public Library, Chicago.

*Secretary:* Miss Irene Warren, Chicago Normal School.

*Treasurer:* Miss M. E. Ahern, *Public Libraries*, 215 Madison st., Chicago.

The last meeting of the year was held Thursday, April 13, at Hayes, Cooke & Co., booksellers, 144 Wabash ave. The president and vice-president being absent, the meeting was called to order by the secretary, who, by vote of the club, presided during the evening.

Reports of the year's work were received from the committees and officers. The committee on statistics of Cook County libraries, A. H. Hopkins, chairman, reported progress. The committee on union periodical list, C. W. Andrews, chairman, reported that the committee was ready to begin printing the union list whenever the necessary funds should have been secured. Mr. Hild, chairman of the committee charged with raising the needed amount, stated that the principal libraries of Chicago had all contributed to this end, and that the required sum was now assured. He suggested that the committee be continued in order to supervise the disbursement of this money. The committee on jail libraries, Herve White, chairman, reported that the library conducted by him at the Cook County jail was in a prospering condition and doing good work, and that certain prisoners had been assigned to distribute and collect the books, which was done once a week. The library now consists of 340 volumes of standard fiction, travels, history, poetry, e-says, etc., carefully selected. A finding list has been made and the prisoners are allowed to select their books themselves. They have shown a high appreciation of the library, and have kept up a good standard in reading. At least three-fourths of the books are in constant circulation. The jail officials have shown every courtesy, and have helped to make the library a success.

Miss Irene Warren, chairman of the committee on home libraries, gave a summary of the work of the committee from the beginning. The home libraries are sent out and directed from the Chicago Normal School, the visitors being drawn from the training class of teachers for the public schools. About 30 of the pupils have at different times been engaged in this work. 13 home libraries are now in operation with a total of 278 books. A number of books were received by donation during the past year, and the undertaking will doubtless prosper if adequately supported. The report of the treasurer was then read and referred to an auditing committee, which subsequently reported the same to be correct. A nominating committee, appointed earlier in the evening to report a list of officers for the next year, then submitted

the following: President, C. B. Roden, Chicago Public Library; First vice-president, William Stetson Merrill, Newberry Library; Second vice-president, Mary B. Lindsay, Evanston Free Public Library; Secretary, Irene Warren, Chicago Normal School; Treasurer, Mary E. Ahern, Library Bureau. These were unanimously elected, and the meeting then adjourned.

C. B. RODEN, *Secretary*.

#### NEW YORK LIBRARY CLUB.

*President*: Arthur E. Bostwick, Public Library, Brooklyn.

*Secretary*: Frank Weitenkamp, N. Y. Public Library.

*Treasurer*: Miss Theresa Hitchler, N. Y. Free Circulating Library.

#### LIBRARY ASSOCIATION OF WASHINGTON CITY.

*President*: Dr. H. Carrington Bolton, Cosmos Club.

*Secretary*: W. L. Boyden, Librarian Supreme Council 33° A.A. Order of Scottish Rite.

*Treasurer*: T. L. Cole, Statute Law Book Co. *Meetings*: Second Wednesday evening of each month.

The 39th regular meeting of the Library Association of Washington City was held at Columbian University, April 12, 1899, with the president, Dr. H. C. Bolton, presiding. About 60 members and visitors were present.

The minutes of the previous meeting were read and approved. The executive committee reported the election to membership of the following persons: Herbert Putnam, Librarian of Congress; Bernard R. Green, Superintendent of the Library of Congress; A. F. Adams, Assistant librarian of the U. S. National Museum, and Messrs. Craig C. Choate, R. H. Johnston, F. J. Reynolds, and W. A. Slade, assistants in the Library of Congress.

The Committee on Current Events, Dr. Cyrus Adler, chairman, reported on current library topics as follows:

Mr. Hansen, Haebler's "Iter ibericum," report of Harvard University Library, catalog of books in the reading-room of the University of Leipzig, the University Library of Basle; Dr. Bolton, history of the University Library of Vienna; Colonel Flint, Progress of the Free Library; Dr. Friedenwald, catalog of manuscripts in the University of Groningen, the Verona library, catalog of French manuscripts in the National Library, Paris; Mr. Williams, publications of the New York State University relating to library matters; Mr. Martel, the Royal Library of the Hague, Polybiblion, 1898; Miss Gilkey, Carnegie Library bulletin, Cambridge Public Library bulletin, New York Public Library bulletin, "The Free Library," by Ogle; Miss Nickelsen, history of the National Library at Rio de Janeiro, catalog of Normal School at Rio de Janeiro.

Miss Margaret C. Dyer read an interesting and comprehensive paper on "University libraries in the District of Columbia." Among the libraries mentioned were Georgetown University, founded in 1789 by the Most Rev. John Carroll, number of volumes in the library over

78,500 and 46,500 pamphlets; Columbian University Library, founded 1821, by Rev. Luther Rice, about 8000 volumes and 800 pamphlets; library of Howard University, founded in 1868 by Rev. D. B. Nichols, about 15,000 volumes and 12,000 pamphlets; National University Law Library, founded 1868, 2000 volumes; Medical Library, founded 1884, numbers about 100 volumes, and the leading dental and medical periodicals are subscribed for; Catholic University of America, founded in 1889, 40,000 volumes and 8000 pamphlets.

Mr. W. P. Cutter gave a brief talk on "An experience in moving a library," being the result of his personal experience with the Library of the Department of Agriculture.

The committee appointed at a previous meeting submitted the following:

"Resolved, That the Library Association of Washington City desires to record its regret at the death of Hon. John Russell Young, late Librarian of Congress, who had been called to this post to reorganize and administer this great library under its enlarged form and in its new building."

"His record as journalist, diplomat, and *litterateur* gave promise of success in his new capacity, of which his short service prevented the complete fulfillment."

F. H. PARSONS,  
THEO. L. COLE,  
W. P. CUTTER,  
H. L. PRINCE, } *Committee.*

The resolution was adopted, and ordered spread on the minutes.

The 40th regular meeting of the Library Association of Washington City was held at Columbian University, May 3, 1899, with the president, Dr. H. C. Bolton, in the chair. The minutes of the previous meeting were read and approved. The executive committee reported the election to membership of the following: Walter R. Whittlesey, superintendent, Department of Music, Library of Congress, Miss Myrta Lura Mason, assistant, Department of Music, Library of Congress.

A committee of five was authorized to be appointed by the chair, to co-operate with Mr. Thomson, of Philadelphia, in compiling a bibliography of incunabula in America.

Mr. Herbert Putnam, Librarian of Congress, was then introduced, and in a few pleasant words welcomed the vice-director and pupils of the New York State Library School to the Capital City and to the association. Mrs. Salome C. Fairchild, the vice-director of the school, responded happily, and in the course of her remarks on general library matters, made a special plea for quiet in the library, for the rights of readers, and for access of the readers to the shelves.

Vice-president Hansen then took the chair, and Dr. Bolton read a short and interesting paper on "A model librarian three hundred years ago," describing the ideas, aims, and characteristics of a model librarian of that age.

Dr. A. R. Spofford followed with a pleasing and instructive talk.

The session then adjourned to afford those present an opportunity to become socially acquainted. Over 100 members and visitors were present.

WM. L. BOYDEN, *Secretary*.

## Library Schools and Training Classes

### DREXEL INSTITUTE LIBRARY SCHOOL.

The year's work is drawing towards a close, the 9th of June being selected as commencement day at the institute. During the second term the students have classified and cataloged a collection of 1500 volumes, besides attending lectures and doing the routine practice work required. Visits have been made to the libraries of Philadelphia for the purpose of studying their various methods.

A problem was assigned to the class to prepare bulletins on some topic of general interest which should be suited to post in a library, each student being allowed to choose her own subject and exercise her ingenuity in making it attractive. Some interesting results have been received.

The course in literature, as given for the past two years, has occupied three lecture periods each week, and has consisted of a brief though somewhat comprehensive review of American literature and of the English literature of the 19th century. These periods were selected for study as representing the authors most frequently in demand in the ordinary circulating library, authors of whom it seems desirable that a librarian should have a more systematic knowledge than is usually acquired from one's own more or less desultory reading, and of whom it is also desirable to possess more definite bibliographical information than is possible to secure in any school or college course in literature. Many bibliographical problems are given throughout the entire course. The study of each period begins with two or three recitations devoted to a discussion of the comparative merits of the best reference and text books on that period, with quizzes and practical test questions on the same. Thereafter the student is held responsible for selecting the material for special topics assigned her, as well as for the general study of each author, from the best and most authoritative sources of information. Each student is also required to make an appointed number of satisfactory reference lists on the individual authors under consideration, which are bulletined for the use of the class. One problem given to the entire class resulted in some very interesting lists, and revealed great diversity of tastes on the part of the students. They were asked to hand in at the end of the study of American authors a limited list of the most suitable American novels and short stories to read to sick people, the problem being based upon the personal experience of the teacher, Miss Cattell, who for several years had constant demand in her library for such information.

Miss Marot, a graduate of the class of '95, has compiled a bibliography, entitled "A handbook to labor literature," which has just been published by the Free Library of Economics, Philadelphia, of which Miss Marot is the librarian. It is an annotated and classified list of the subject. ALICE B. KROEGER, *Director*.

### NEW YORK STATE LIBRARY SCHOOL.

#### SUMMER COURSE.

The University of the State of New York has issued Handbook 14, outlining the features of the special summer course, to extend from May 23 to July 3. The holding of this course earlier than the date usually set for these special sessions has made it possible to give to the summer students the advantages of the full faculty and of coming into relation with the members of the regular school. They also have the benefit of the state library while in active operation, instead of during the vacation season.

#### VISIT TO NEW YORK, PHILADELPHIA, BALTIMORE, AND WASHINGTON LIBRARIES.

Various opinions have appeared in print as to the A. L. A. conference held at Chautauqua last July. For myself I found it the most stimulating of the 13 A. L. A. conferences which I have attended. At its close my mind was fairly teeming with plans for the development and enrichment of the school course. Among them rose the idea of extending the range of the library school spring visit by including Philadelphia and Washington as well as New York and vicinity, for the sake of wider comparison of methods. The visit took place April 25 to May 6, 1899.

The library party numbered 40: 10 members of the class of 1899, 28 of the class of 1900, Mr. Arthur L. Bailey and Mr. William B. Cook, jr., of the New York State Library Staff, and Miss Florence Woodworth, of the school faculty, with the vice-director in charge. Mr. Fairchild took advantage of our special rates to secure about 100 photographs of child-life in the streets of large cities, which he will use in providing visual instruction in ethics for the public schools; and also secured for us some valuable library photographs, throwing light on points particularly hard to explain orally. Mrs. Ashley, wife of the president of the junior class, and their little daughter Ruth, increased the number of the party to 43.

After the trip down the river to New York, and a half day spent according to individual preference, we began work Wednesday afternoon, April 26, by visiting the stores of Macmillan Co., D. Appleton, Longmans, Green, Dodd, Mead & Co., Charles Scribner's, and G. P. Putnam, and by attending a sale at Bangs' auction-rooms. In the evening the school was at home in the Hotel Albert to the 39 former students resident in New York and vicinity. A large number responded to the invitation.

On Thursday morning, after an hour spent at the Bruce, the administrative branch of the N. Y. Free Circulating Library, we adjourned to the beautiful building of the Bloomingdale branch. Here we were addressed by the newly appointed librarian, J. N. Wing, and by the retiring librarian, A. E. Bostwick. A delightful lunch, presided over by Miss Theresa Hitchler and by Miss Eugenie Krauss, the librarian-in-charge of this branch, was a happy



accompaniment to our first library visit of this trip. We were especially glad to meet here Mrs. Craigie, who is so closely identified with the library interests of Brooklyn. We had been expecting the opportunity of observing the difference between closed and open shelves in the same library system, but the last branch was transformed about the middle of April.

We spent most of the afternoon at the Columbia University Library, so richly deserving careful study. Here the librarian, G. H. Baker, C. A. Nelson, the reference librarian, Miss Prescott, of the catalog department, and the other assistants spared no pains to facilitate our investigation. The time left was all too short for an inspection of the beautiful and efficient library of the Teachers' College.

The children's committee found great pleasure and profit Thursday evening at the Fifth Street branch of the Aguilar Library and the library of the University Settlement.

Friday morning was spent by the senior class in bibliographical work in libraries specially rich in material on the subjects which they are treating. This gave also an opportunity for each student to use at least one important library as a reader.

Small committees from the junior class visited the following libraries: Bar Association Library, Cathedral Free Circulating Library, Harlem Library, Jersey City Public Library, Lenox Library, New York Free Circulating Library for the Blind, New York Society Library, Newark Public Library, Y. M. C. A. Library, Y. W. C. A. Library, and Union Theological Seminary Library. We only regretted that the whole party could not visit the entire number. Friday afternoon was used as a half holiday. Saturday morning was devoted to the Mercantile Library and the New York Public Library. We are greatly indebted both to W. T. Peoples and to Dr. J. S. Billings for an able presentation of the scope, methods, and future plans of these libraries. In the afternoon we made a short visit at the Brooklyn Library, noticing specially the open-shelf room and the circulating collection of music (this library was a pioneer in both these lines), the unique scrap-book collection, and the James D. Bell special library, presented to the library about a year ago.

The rest of the afternoon was spent at the Pratt Institute, in inspecting the library, in listening to a forceful and discriminating lecture on Kipling by Prof. William C. Lawton, of Adelphi College, and in attending a charming reception given in our honor by the Graduates' Association of the Pratt Institute Library School. On Sunday we spent a few minutes in the reading-room of the Cooper Union, receiving a vivid impression of the class of people frequenting libraries in large cities on a Sunday afternoon or evening. Leaving New York on Monday morning, May 1, we began work in Philadelphia at the Mercantile Library, and enjoyed our greeting from Mr. Edmonds, one of the oldest members of the profession. Our visit to the Apprentices' Library, with its attractive children's room, was

all too short, and after an hour's ride and walk through a beautiful suburb we reached Bryn Mawr. Through the kindness of Miss Thomas, the president, and Miss Lord, the librarian, we gained an intimate glimpse of the college life. After inspecting the library, which is wonderfully fitted to meet the needs of a small college, we witnessed a game of basket-ball, dined in Pembroke Hall as the guests of the college, listened to an address by Charlotte Perkins Stetson and were entertained at a reception by the Graduate Club.

On Tuesday morning we visited the library of the University of Pennsylvania, and after an interesting talk by the librarian, Prof. Morris Jastrow, jr., we enjoyed watching the process of reorganization in a large library.

Drexel Institute came next with a talk by the president, Dr. McAlister, and the librarian, Miss Alice B. Kroeger. In the afternoon we were met at the Free Library by Mr. Thomson, the librarian, and by Mr. Thomas L. Montgomery, of the Wagner Institute. This was one of the most interesting libraries which we visited. There was the children's room and the reading-room for the blind, both recently opened, and there was the opportunity to watch for ourselves the enjoyment which the public certainly take in access to the books at the shelves. As Mr. Brett so admirably expressed it later at the Atlanta conference, we believe that the burden of proof lies with those who would deny access rather than with those who would give to the people the free use of the books which belongs to any idea of the library as an educational institution. In proving the feasibility of free access in large cities, the Free Library of Philadelphia has been of great service to the library world. Will it not presently go on from its present *laissez faire* theory to give with the books the service of as many intelligent and sympathetic reference librarians as the people may need?

Several of the party succumbed to the heat and the humidity of the only uncomfortable day of the trip, and failed to appear at the West Philadelphia branch. As this is the only one of the 58 appointments on our itinerary which we failed to keep, I trust it may not be scored against us. The beautiful entrance hall of the Drexel Institute proved an ideal place for the reception given us by the Drexel Institute Library School Association. The reading-room of the Library Co. of Philadelphia is particularly cool and alluring of a May morning, and we longed to choose a favorite book and a seat on the back porch near the quaint old Franklin tablet, but we resolutely resisted and questioned Mr. Barnwell and his patient assistants as duty demanded. There was only time for a glimpse of the beautiful rooms of the Historical Society, before we must hurry on to Broad street station and take the train for Baltimore.

How we lunched on the train to save time, received a most hospitable welcome from the librarians of the Peabody Institute and the Johns Hopkins University and the Enoch Pratt Free Library, and appeared fresh and interested and only a few minutes late at the evening meeting

of the Washington Library Association must be imagined, it cannot be explained.

Here we were greeted in a most happy speech of welcome by Mr. Putnam, listened to an interesting paper by the president, Dr. H. C. Bolton, and a unique and altogether delightful address from Mr. Spofford, closing with words of advice to library students.

Perfect weather crowned the day which we spent as guests of the Library of Congress, the red-letter day of our trip. Nothing could have exceeded the facilities which were given us for studying the institution. Beginning under the charge of Mr. Spofford and closing with Mr. Solberg, we were "personally conducted" through each department by its chief. We had the great privilege of being shown those parts of the building specially illustrating construction, by the architect, Mr. Green. During our entire visit the wonderful thoughtfulness of Mr. Hutcheson, his unflinching kindness and courtesy made themselves constantly felt. It were ungracious to discriminate, but I must confess to being most impressed by the wonderful possibilities of the department of maps and the splendid organization of the department of copyright which is being effected under Mr. Solberg's wise and genial direction.

A leisurely lunch on the upper floor of the building followed, then a drive about the city under the escort of Mr. T. L. Cole and Mr. W. L. Boyden. A reception given by the resident alumnæ of the New York State Library School, at the artistic home of Mr. and Mrs. W. P. Cutter, rounded out this beautiful day.

On Friday morning we received a most cordial welcome from Dr. W. T. Harris, at the Bureau of Education, which he had invited us to consider headquarters during our stay in the city. Here we saw the A. L. A. Library. Visits to the Surgeon-General's Office, the National Museum, the Smithsonian Institution, the Department of Agriculture, and the Washington Public Library completed our work.

Such is the meagre record of ground covered. The positive gain in knowledge of libraries, the added perspective, the acquaintances made, the multitude of suggestions received, the stimulus to persistent and thorough research into library conditions, the clarifying of ideas and the uplifting of ideals cannot be estimated.

We are most grateful for the never-failing kindness and attention received from every librarian and assistant whom we met. We want to record our especial appreciation of the work of our former students in Philadelphia and Washington for planning our first visit as a school to those cities, particularly to Miss Alice B. Kroeger, Miss Isabel E. Lord, and Miss Josephine Clark, and of the considerateness of the librarians of the following libraries in forwarding packages of samples for us to Albany: Free Library of Philadelphia, Bryn Mawr College Library, Drexel Institute Library, Philadelphia Mercantile Library, University of Pennsylvania Library, Library of Congress, and Department of Agriculture Library.

SALOME CUTLER FAIRCHILD.

#### PRATT INSTITUTE LIBRARY SCHOOL.

The fourth annual field-work tour of the Pratt Institute Library School took place this year between March 27 and April 1, inclusive. The party consisted of 16 students of both classes, under the conduct of Miss Plummer, the director, and Miss Collar, one of the staff of instructors. The libraries visited were those of Philadelphia, Bryn Mawr College, Wilkes-Barré, and Scranton.

In Philadelphia the list included the library of Drexel Institute, where a "tea" was tendered the visitors by the Graduates' Association of the Drexel Institute Library School, the libraries of the University of Pennsylvania, of the American Philosophical Society, Franklin Institute, Historical Society, and Academy of Natural Sciences, the Apprentices' Library, the Library Company and its Ridgway Branch, the Bar Association Library, and the Free Public Library, with its West Philadelphia and Wagner Institute branches and Widener collection of incunabula. A reception was given to the visiting school at the rooms of the Philobiblon Club, of which Mr. John Thomson, Mr. Thomas L. Montgomery, and other librarians, are charter members, and the stay in Philadelphia closed with an evening trip to Bryn Mawr, where the library was explained by Miss Lord, the librarian, and refreshments served in a cosy students' parlor.

On the 30th the party reached Wilkes-Barré, where a repetition of the Philadelphia hospitality met them, in the form of a reception and supper in the beautiful reference-room of the Osterhout Library, after closing hours in the evening. This part of the trip being less crowded than the first few days, the school had time to pay two long visits to the library, and note many of Miss James's ingenious methods and devices. The visitors were inclined to consider their stop here in the light of a celebration, since the board of the Osterhout Library had that day authorized the establishment of a children's room. At Scranton, although the Albright Memorial Library was not open to the public, the day being Good Friday, Mr. and Mrs. Carr and several of the staff were on hand to do the honors and explain the methods of the library, whose building from the first aroused the enthusiasm of all the party sensitive to beautiful architecture. In the evening a visit to the extensive conservatories of a prominent citizen and member of the library board, and a reception at the house of the president of the board, made a pleasant ending to the social features of the trip. A flying second visit to the library in the morning was the last event of the week.

The visits proved anew the generosity of the library profession in welcoming the new-comer into its ranks, instead of turning upon him the cold shoulder. Methods, devices, collections, nothing made so strong an impression upon the school, I think I may say, as the hospitable attitude of the librarians and assistants that are to the librarians and assistants that are to be.

MARY W. PLUMMER, *Director*.

## Library Economy and History.

## GENERAL.

The *Library* for March, 1899, appears as a supplementary number to vol. 10, 1898, with title-page and index for that volume. In this number Mr. MacAlister outlines a plan for the continuance of the *Library*, now superseded as official organ of the L. A. U. K. by the *Library Association Record*. He proposes to issue it henceforth as a quarterly, but without binding himself to its appearance on a given date, for, he says, "If I have nothing worth printing I won't print." In its new form the *Library* "will eschew mere gossip and the tit-bits order of literature"; it will have three distinct sides: "Practical librarianship in its modern and best sense; Bibliography, both archaic and modern; and Literature in the sense of careful notices of books suitable for libraries." It will aim to present "a complete series of illustrated monographs on every department of practical librarianship, and these will be published in systematic order, so as to present the most advanced views, as well as everything of historical value. By this means a complete cyclopædia of library practice will gradually be built up." The four parts, to be issued at 3s. each, will form a volume ranging in size with the previous volumes of the publication. Subscriptions should be sent to J. Y. W. MacAlister, 20 Hanover square, London, W.

The *Library Association Record* for April gives first place to Dr. J. S. Billings' informal account of "The New York Public Library," given at the Southport (1898) conference of the L. A. U. K. R. K. Dent's paper on "Children's books and their place in a reference library," read at the same meeting, is also included, this being a plea for the collection and preservation of juvenile literature as illustrative of the social life of our day.

WIERNIK, P. Jewish literature at the New York public libraries. (*In The American Hebrew*, March 31, 1899. 64:741-743.)

An interesting account of the Jewish collection in the New York Public Library.

## LOCAL.

*Allegheny, Pa. Carnegie F. L.* (Rpt. — year ending Feb. 28, '99.) Added 4308; total 41,381. Issued, home use 110,738 (fict. 63%; juv. fict. 18%); lib. use 63,634. New borrowers 5536; borrowers' cards in force 17,681. Reading-room attendance 110,123; periodicals issued for reading-room use 244,891.

The total fiction percentage, based on the combined reading of the circulating and reference departments, is given as 53%. Mr. Stevenson tabulates the extent of the circulation (for home and reference use) during the eight years of the library's existence, showing a total of 2,485,738.

*Ashland, Wis. Vaughn P. L.* The library has recently established amusement rooms, regard-

ing which Miss Green writes: "We have so many boys in the evening that our regular reading-room will not accommodate them. We cannot send them away, of course; therefore, we are opening these rooms. There are two rooms, 16 feet wide by 25 feet long. The rooms are connected and are well lighted by windows and with electric lights. Chairs and tables have been put in, curtains put at the windows, and many framed and mounted pictures hung about the walls. There are to be games and books and magazines and everything to make the rooms attractive. The rooms and \$25 for use in fitting them were given by Mrs. E. Vaughn-Marquise, formerly of Ashland, now of Chicago. Mrs. Marquise is the founder of the Vaughn Library."

*Atlanta (Ga.) Y. M. L.* The election of trustees to represent the association on the board of directors of the new Carnegie Library was held on April 18. The following trustees were elected: W. M. Kelley, J. R. Nutting, E. M. Mitchell, F. J. Paxon, A. A. Meyer, and T. H. Martin.

*Brookline (Mass.) P. L.* (42d rpt. — year ending Jan. 31, '99.) Added 2864; total 49,401. Issued, home use 97,311 (fict. 61,372; juv. 2639). Cards in use 4355. Receipts \$14,547.87; expenses \$14,524.67.

Mr. Wellman says: "The most important innovation of the year has been the admission of the public to the alcoves. The departments of art, history, and travel were first thrown open experimentally. Careful directions were posted forbidding the public to replace books on the shelves, and the privilege of entering the alcoves was restricted to persons over 18 years of age. As no confusion or misplacing of books resulted, in June freedom of access was extended to include the entire library, with the exception of the alcoves containing fiction. The new arrangement, although at the start not generally understood, has since rapidly grown in favor and in use. No inconvenience has resulted, and it is fair to say that up to the present time open access has proved an unqualified success — greatly valued by the public, and entirely satisfactory to the library authorities." The most urgent need of the library is increased reference facilities for children. During the year two exhibitions of pictures were held.

*Brooklyn (N. Y.) P. L.* At a meeting of the board of education on April 4 it was voted to transfer to the Brooklyn Public Library the 20,000 v. forming the Eastern District School Library in Public School no. 19. The books will be placed in the Eastern District branch of the library.

*Brooklyn (N. Y.) P. L. A.* At a meeting of the association, on April 24 it was decided to establish a branch reading-room in the summer house of Tompkins Park, one of the smaller city breathing-places. The reading-room while started by the association would, it was thought, eventually become a part of the public library system.

*Brooklyn, N. Y. Union for Christian Work L.* An exhibition of nature books, accompanied by mounted illustrations of birds, flowers, and trees, was held early in April. It was visited by many teachers and by school children.

*Buffalo (N. Y.) P. L.* There are now 24 travelling libraries sent to fire stations throughout the city. Each library consists of 30 volumes, and remains in one station for one or two months. The work of reaching police stations in the same way has been begun.

*California State L.* Numerous changes have been made in the library force by the recently appointed state librarian, Mr. Gillis. These include: chief deputy, Miss M. Eastman, of Los Angeles, succeeding W. W. Seamans; deputy, Miss S. M. Breen, of San Francisco, succeeding Mrs. Clara A. Neill; cataloger, Miss Clara Lemmon, of Santa Rosa, succeeding Mrs. W. M. Yount; and a considerable increase of the cataloging staff.

*Denver (Col.) P. L.* The directors of the consolidated public library decided on April 10 to adopt the open-shelf system—at least for so long as the library remains in the temporary quarters to be secured for it. Its adoption in the permanent home of the library will depend upon the result of the trial. This decision was the result of the work of the committee appointed by the directors to investigate the system by consultation with other libraries throughout the country and report upon its defects and advantages. The committee stated that it had received the opinion from its investigations that users of public libraries were better served and better pleased when allowed to see the books for themselves. In that case they got what they wanted instead of being compelled to select haphazard from a catalog. The catalog system was decided to be unsatisfactory, because of the frequency with which the books desired were out and the entire process of making a selection had to be repeated. The advantages of the open system were economy of administration, some librarians putting the saving as high as one-third, and access to books. The latter was said to create a demand for a better class of reading, which is a most desirable and important end in conducting a public library. The arguments against open shelves were lack of space, misplacement of books, loss of books, greater wear and tear, and general confusion. It was believed that the general usefulness offset the objections.

*Detroit (Mich.) P. L.* (34th rpt., 1898.) Added 8419; total 152,934. Issued, home use 461,848 (fict. 52.38%; juv. 20.44%), of which 94,876 were drawn through the schools; lib. use 501,742. New registration 6052; total cardholders 30,716. Receipts \$61,059.27; expenses \$40,233.42.

A careful inventory was made at the close of the year, the entire staff volunteering to give two Sundays to the work, and the plan of closing it up so speedily by a large force being found "a great improvement over the system

formerly employed of devoting to it several months of the time of one or two persons." About 300 books, outside of fiction, were reported not found, of which fully one-half were on open shelves in the reference-room. About 400 were missing from fiction, nearly all in the children's room on open shelves. "The losses here, although they may look large in point of number of books, are, as far as money value is concerned, of trifling consequence." The inventory also brought out the following facts: "We have 17,782 periodicals, of which 8270 are classed as general; 2114 as medical; 1745 as scientific; 1570 as sociological. We have 3004 volumes of society transactions, of which 1307 are scientific, 265 medical, 305 historical. There are 4171 volumes in the medical library; 5834 volumes in German, of which 2657 are fiction; 3786 volumes in French, of which 667 are fiction; 1103 volumes in Polish, of which 612 are fiction; 864 volumes in Italian, Spanish, Latin, etc. Of the 22,097 volumes of fiction, 17,852 are classed as adult and 4245 as juvenile. Of the 17,852 volumes of adult fiction 13,863 are English, 2657 German, 677 French, 612 Polish, 53 Dutch."

*Dubuque (Ia.) Y. M. L. A.* (Rpt.—year ending March 31, '99.) Added 176; total 17,000. Issued 30,190 (fict. 25.275). Membership 702. Receipts \$3008.75; expenses \$2937.06.

*Fall River (Mass.) P. L.* The new library building, which was opened to the public on March 23, is one of the handsomest of recent library buildings, and represents an expenditure of \$252,000, including land.

The library is modelled after the typical Roman palace of the 16th century. The style of architecture is Italian renaissance. The interior decorations are in keeping with the original design, even to the furniture, which is true to the period it represents. The stack-room gives accommodation for 325,000 v., but only three floors are at present in use.

*Flatbush (Brooklyn, N. Y.) F. L.* Since its opening on Feb. 22 of the present year the library reported on April 13 a circulation of 4075 from a total of 3441 v., a reading-room attendance of 2106, and 765 cardholders. An appeal for funds has been made to the public, and it is hoped to raise \$1000 to continue and extend the work so effectively begun.

*Harvard Univ. L., Cambridge, Mass.* (Rpt., 1897-8.) Mr. Lane's report must rank as a permanently useful contribution to the literature of college library administration, and it deserves careful study by all who are concerned in such administration. The chief problems that Mr. Lane considers are "those connected with the recent development of laboratory and classroom libraries, their proper supervision, the relation of these and of the larger departmental or professional libraries to the college library, and the final influence of both upon the question whether we are to continue to have one good library, embracing all subjects, or are finally to split up our great library into a number of smaller collections devoted each to its

own field, and made in that field as complete as possible." These are, in fact, different phases of the same question, and Mr. Lane presents their various aspects with a clear-sightedness and fairness that makes his survey of direct value and helpfulness. On the whole, while granting the necessity for special separate libraries in such fields as law and medicine, the greater advantages are believed to remain in the large, central, and well-classified main library, supplemented by small working collections, frequently weeded out and kept up to date for laboratory and class-room use.

Specific details of the library year include record of 17,739 accessions, giving a total of 506,396 v. and 413,926 pm., these figures including the law, divinity, and medical schools, and other semi-distinct collections. Some of the most important additions are briefly noted. The use of books in the college library (Gore Hall) amounted to 88,289, of which 61,272 were lent; in addition, 11,938 v. were issued for overnight use. The outside use of the library includes 1191 v. lent to Radcliffe College on application, and 430 v. sent to 92 applicants (including 29 colleges) at a distance from the university.

In the technical work of the library, mention is made of the reclassification, steadily continued throughout the year, and of the part taken in the cataloging of scientific serials, in connection with the several libraries co-operating with the A. L. A. Publishing Section.

*Helena (Mont.) P. L.* The 13th report of the library, presented March 6, gives the following facts: Added 3844; total "over 25,000." Issued, home use 85,578 (fict. 58%); visits to reading-room "over 100,000." Receipts \$8897.48; expenses \$3778.64.

The work of the library is gratifying, though its effectiveness continues to be hampered by insufficient funds. The trustees say: "The remodelling of the library building was undertaken under the pressure of great need for more space to accommodate the increasing size and use of the library. But the very large reduction in the assessment list that was afterward made was unexpected by all, and the one-mill levy for the library has in consequence yielded considerably less revenue than was expected. This has made it impossible for us to meet the growing needs of the library, while we are obliged each year to take out a considerable amount to apply toward the expense on the building."

"The most important and the most encouraging part of the work of the library is that for the young. Only 18 per cent. of the books of the library are books suitable for the young, but these books now get 43 per cent. of the use (increasing from 30 per cent. in 1894), which is more than twice as large as the use of other parts of the library. It is also true that the reading of the young is of better quality than that of the older people."

*Huntsville, Ala.* At a recent meeting of the public library association, a resolution was passed offering to turn the library over to the

city and make it a free public institution, provided the city council agreed to pay the rent and contribute \$10 a month to defray the necessary expenses.

*Illinois travelling lib. bill.* The bill establishing a state library commission to conduct a system of travelling libraries, introduced into the legislature under the auspices of the Illinois State Library Association and others interested in library progress, was defeated by four votes in the house on April 12. The measure had previously been passed by the senate, and its defeat comes as a disappointment to the library workers of the state.

*Lansdowne (Pa.) F. L.* On April 25 the free library established through the efforts of citizens of the borough was formally opened. Dr. F. W. Speir, president of the association, presided, and introduced the speaker of the evening, John Thomson, of the Philadelphia Free Library. Mr. Thomson gave a helpful and stimulating address on the modern library movement and its growth, and closed with a display of views of important American and foreign library buildings. An earnest appeal was made to the residents and friends for the support of the library, the membership fee being fixed at one dollar per annum, and life membership to those who would contribute \$25 or more.

*Milwaukee (Wis.) P. L.* "Bird day" was celebrated in the children's room of the library on the Saturday previous to May 4, the day usually observed. Saturday was chosen to enable a greater number to attend the talk on "Birds," given by Mrs. F. H. Whitcomb, who, besides being an enthusiastic bird student, has, through her lectures in the schools and other places, been most successful in arousing an interest among young people in the study of birds. The talk was illustrated with mounted specimens and pictures, and great stress was laid on the important part the boys and girls can take in protecting and caring for our birds. The talk was given in the lecture-room, and the capacity of the room was taxed to its utmost to hold the eager little listeners. Around the cases in the children's room were hung the 75 colored illustrations from Chapman's "Bird life," which were mounted on gray board. Underneath each picture was a typewritten description of the bird, with some appropriate quotation, while the books on birds were placed on shelves in a corner by themselves.

As long as the exhibit hangs it is purposed to have in the room mounted specimens which assist the children greatly in identifying the birds.

*Missouri, lib. legislation.* The library bill introduced by Representative Amick in February passed the lower house on April 20, and was passed by the senate on May 16; its approval by the governor is assured. The bill has been previously noted in these columns (L. J., February, p. 77), but not fully recorded. In addition to authorizing a library election on petition of 100 voters in any incorporated city, it provides that if the majority of votes

cast "on such proposition" shall be in favor of the tax, the proposition shall be considered carried. This abrogates the old provision which required a majority of those voting at the election on any proposition to vote favorably on the library proposition—to which restriction is attributed the successive defeats at the polls of the library propositions submitted by the public libraries of St. Louis and St. Joseph. The new bill also authorizes county courts, on petition of 100 citizens of the county and 100 citizens of an incorporated city containing a public library, in the county, to contract with the officers of the library for its use by citizens of the county, residing outside the city, on payment of a sum appropriated from the county revenues for the purpose; the contract to be renewed yearly, and the annual appropriation not to exceed three per cent. of the county revenue for the year, out of which payment is made. The bill was prepared and introduced chiefly through the efforts of Mr. P. B. Wright, of the St. Joseph Public Library, and an emergency clause will make it immediately effective.

*New Haven (Ct.) F. P. L.* (Rpt., 1898.) Added 5072; discarded, etc., 1012; total 42,923. The number of books purchased was 900 less than in 1897, number discarded 400 less. Issued for home use 287,261, an increase of 26,946, about 10%. Number of borrowers added 8130; total 15,516, also an increase of about 10%. Each borrower drew an average of 19 books during the year.

The children's room has been enlarged and a list of children's books printed. There was an increase over 1897 of 10,000 vols. in the circulation of juvenile fiction, and the work with the schools and teachers is progressing. The librarian in his report makes an earnest plea for the enlargement of the building, and suggests that the monthly bulletin would be "much more satisfactory and more dignified" if printed at the expense of the library, without advertisements. The directors claim that in no other library is "so much work done for a similar amount of money."

*New York Society L.* (Rpt.—year ending March 31, '99.) Sum spent for books and periodicals \$2413.64. Issued 33,925, of which 26,306 were works of fiction. This circulation considerably exceeds any other recorded by the library. Number of visitors 15,462.

The new card catalog now comprises entries under author, title, and subject. Of nearly all the books which circulate it is found of great value, and will be continued to include newspapers, periodicals, and documents. The library needs more shelf room and over \$1000 to expend in rebinding.

*Newark (N. J.) F. P. L.* (10th rpt., 1898.) Added 6678; total 65,693. Issued, home use 357,504 (fict. 59.8%; juv. 20.9%), of which 75,504 were issued through the seven delivery stations. Visitors to ref. room 17,313. New registration 5363; total registration 18,863.

There were 47 books lost during 1898, of which 13 were charged to borrowers who could

not be located. Concerning losses in general, Mr. Hill says: "In our 10 years of work only 310 volumes, representing a value of \$280 have been lost from the library, and 12 periodicals taken from the reading-room."

There were 4893 v. circulated among teachers, and the maintenance of a branch library and delivery station in the new high school building, which will be situated some distance from the library, is suggested. Travelling libraries have been sent out to the schools and to the various engine houses of the city. It is recommended that a new printed catalog be prepared, to be ready for use when the new library building is completed.

*North Adams (Mass.) P. L.* (3d rpt.—year ending Dec. 1, '98.) Added 443; discarded 204; total 15,619. Issued for home use 59,850, of which 22,340 were loaned after 6 p.m.; loaned to teachers for school-work 554.

The event of the year was the removal on Oct. 1 into the Andrew Jackson Houghton Memorial building, given by the city's first mayor, A. C. Houghton. Owing to preparations for removal the library was open only 266 days, thus decreasing the yearly circulation. Advantage was taken of the period during which the general circulation ceased to go through all the fiction and children's books, discarding, repairing, rebinding, and replacing.

When the library reopened in its new quarters all desiring to use it were asked to re-register, and 2071 persons availed themselves of this privilege from Oct. 24 to Nov. 30. An innovation adopted has been the opening of the reading-rooms in the new building from 2 to 7 on Sundays.

*Oberlin College L., Oberlin, O.* (Rpt.—year ending Aug. 31, '98.) Added 2417 v., 3879 pm.; total 39,560 v., 25,984 pm. Issued, home use 13,224. No. readers 75,778.

The completion of the new temporary stack made possible the rearrangement of the library and gave needed additional space. The various urgent needs for a larger income still continue, and many needed improvements must await this desired consummation.

*Pasadena (Cal.) P. L.* (Rpt.—year ending March 31, '99.) Added 1569; total 13,710. Issued 115,044; reading-room attendance 42,313. New registration 1165; total active membership "about 3000."

The year's record is one of remarkable progress, and many excellent innovations in practice are recorded. Free access was established in all departments, and to this feature is attributed the "increased popularity and usefulness." The extent of this increase is indicated in the fact that the home issue of books shows a gain of 32,846 over the previous years—an increase of nearly 50% in the last nine months—while the reference and reading room use has more than doubled. The library has been opened also between the hours of 5 and 7 p.m.; guarantor blanks for city residents have been abolished; a satisfactory card charging system has been installed; additional privileges have been granted to teachers; a children's corner

has been established; a "stranger's reading-table" has been made an attractive feature; typewritten shelf lists have been made; fines have been reduced from 5 cts. to 2 cts. per day; a monthly bulletin has been issued; extra assistants have been provided, who serve three hours per day for six months without pay; and pictures have been mounted for library decoration and for circulation. The two-book system was adopted in March, 1899; also the admission of children between the ages of 8 and 12 to membership in the library. This is a record of which the library may fairly be proud.

*Philadelphia F. L.* (3d rpt. — Oct. 1, '97–Dec. 31, '98.) Additions not stated; total 184,687. Receipts \$169,018.49; expenditures \$163,428.84. The circulation for 1898 was 1,738,950, as compared with 1,672,684 in 1897. Tables are given showing the circulation by months and by classes of the free library and of each branch, and one showing the total circulation of the free library system by years.

During the period covered the free library has received from Mr. P. A. B. Widener his mansion on the corner of Broad street and Girard avenue, to be known as the Josephine Widener memorial branch. When the proposed changes have been made by Mr. Widener and the Gallery of American Art formed, the value of the gift, it is estimated, will equal \$1,000,000. Mr. Widener has also presented the library with a collection of incunabula consisting of 500 works printed before 1501.

The period covered by the report was one of great activity for the library. Two new branches were opened, one at McPherson Park, the other at Port Richmond, and two more were proposed for the southern and southwestern parts of the city. Enlarged quarters were obtained for the main library and the West Philadelphia and Roxborough branches. The travelling library work was successfully carried on within the city limits. A department for the blind was organized, though not opened, and over 2000 volumes collected for their use by co-operation with the Home Teaching Society. No. 1 of the new and scholarly series of bulletins was issued; an index of historical fiction was begun, with the assistance of some of the educational workers of the city; and the library carried on its share of the work on the union list of periodicals for Philadelphia and its neighborhood, to be published when completed as a bulletin of the Free Library. The Christian Hall Library Co. of Chestnut Hill was affiliated with the Free Library system, and the use of a room for free lectures was given to the American Society for the Extension of University Teaching.

The report includes the minute on the death of Dr. William Pepper, late president of the library, who was also its chief organizer.

*Philadelphia F. L.* The library and reading-room for the blind, conducted by the Free Library, was opened to the public on the morning of April 12. The department while immediately adjacent to the main library has a separate entrance and distinct organization.

*Reading (Pa.) L.* On the first day of April the board of directors of the Reading Library Company completed, by deed of gift, the transfer of its library and building to the city of Reading, upon condition of suitable maintenance by the city as a free library. The trustees, of whom 10 are chosen by city councils and five by the library company, organized promptly by electing as president of the board Richmond L. Jones, who as president of the library company had been so successful in establishing the library as a free foundation. Albert R. Durham, the librarian under the former management, was chosen librarian for the city, and the library is now open daily. With 5300 books available for circulation, the issue has already reached the rate of 40,000 a year.

*Richmond Hill (L. I.) F. L.* A free library was opened in Richmond Hill on Saturday, April 8, in pleasant rooms in the Arcanum building. The library is the result of the earnest and united efforts of the women of the community who are organized into a Twentieth Century Club of unlimited membership, pledged to the advancement of the educational, civic, and social interests of the place. The club was organized in December, 1898, and was an outgrowth of a Red Cross Auxiliary, organized in the summer to work for the soldiers and sailors; so much work was accomplished that it was decided, when the needs for Red Cross work had passed, to continue the organization and work for various interests in their own community. The first definite work undertaken was a free library, and after three months' work the club had received by donation over 1000 volumes. The trustees have added by purchase 50 of the latest books by favorite authors, and 50 books for the young people; as fast as funds are available, new books will be constantly added. The arrangement and equipment of the library are according to the latest approved methods, and an effort has been made to make the drawing of books from the library so simple that every adult and every child in the community will become a reader. The library-room will be used as a reading-room, and every one will be made to feel it an attractive and convenient place to spend a leisure hour.

*St. Joseph (Mo.) F. P. L.* The board of directors are considering a proposition made by the owners of Unity Chapel, who offer to sell the chapel building and its site for \$15,000 for library purposes. The site is a central one, well adapted for the library, and it is thought that the building could be so altered as to be adequate for library use, especially if the free-access system should be adopted. The plan is approved by many interested in the welfare of the library, as the present building — originally a private residence — is not sufficiently central in its location.

*St. Paul (Minn.) P. L.* (17th rpt. — year ending Dec. 31, '98.) Added 3547; total 47,151. Issued, home use 172,959 (fict. 46.32%; juv. 27.86%); lib. use 56,231. New registration 4597; total card-holders 10,924. Receipts \$17,934.86; expenses \$14,253.16.

A considerable decrease both in borrowers and in circulation is reported. The removal of the children's department to new quarters made it necessary to close this department for some weeks.

*Salem (Mass.) P. L.* (10th rpt., 1898.) Added 2576; total 36,807. Issued, home use 113,144 (fict. 85.50%); ref. use (from circulating dept.) 5454; visitors to ref. dept. 8334. New registration 752; total registration 11,831. Receipts \$18,798.84; expenses \$12,541.68.

Mr. Jones recommends a new registration of borrowers, the issue of students' cards, and a children's room. He notes an increased reference use, and mentions as an innovation of the year the reserving of books on special subjects for school use. An addition to the building is much needed.

*Springfield (Mass.) City L. A.* A geographical and geological exhibition was opened in April in the new science building of the association for three months. It is intended especially for teachers in elementary schools, and includes a varied collection of appliances for geographic teaching — wall maps, relief maps and globes, pictures, charts and prints, models, and other apparatus. In connection with the exhibit the association has issued a special bulletin, containing a selected bibliography of the subject prepared by W. S. Monroe, of the state normal school of Westfield, Mass., and an extract from Geikie's book on "The teaching of geography."

*Taunton (Mass.) P. L.* (23d rpt. — year ending Nov. 23, '98.) Added 1409; total 44,657. Issued 73,905 (fict. and juv. 75%). New registration 381; total registration 14,420.

During the last two weeks in August the library was closed for special examination and cleaning.

*Terrell, Tex.* A movement toward a free public library has been started by the local women's clubs, and several public meetings have been held.

*Watertown (Mass.) F. P. L.* (31st rpt., 1898.) Added 703; total 25,064. Issued, home use 33,193 (fict. and juv. 60.5%); lib. use 4918. Sunday attendance, Sept. to Feb., 2244. New cards issued 267; total cards issued 7816. Receipts \$4199.31; expenses \$4178.49.

Mr. Whitney gives special attention to the improvements made possible by the generous gift of H. H. Hunnewell, which has permitted enlargement sufficient to meet all present needs, giving a children's room, a historical room, and trustees' room, available also for special study use; and a large reference reading-room. It is proposed to call this reference-room Hunnewell hall. New shelving is to be installed, and until it is in place the reclassification of the library must be suspended. The experiment of Sunday opening, tried during the year, has warranted the continuance of the plan. The library has become a member of the Library Art Club, and is thus enabled to hold art exhibitions at intervals.

*Weymouth, Mass. Tufts L.* (20th rpt., 1898.)

Added 472; total 19,310. Issued, home use, 63,869 (fict. and juv. 70.3%), of which 30,815 were issued through the seven delivery agencies; 5967 were issued to teachers. Borrowers' cards issued 3029. Receipts \$3199.69; expenses \$3133.46.

The circulation showed a decrease of over 6000 v. as compared with the previous year, the result, it is believed, of three causes — "the reduction of \$300 in the annual appropriation; the war with Spain; and the opening of the Fogg Library."

*Wisconsin State Hist. Soc., Madison.* The bill awarding an additional appropriation to the State Historical Society for its new building was passed by the legislature in April, with an amendment providing that not more than \$300,000 shall be paid until contracts are let for the completion of the entire building except the northwest wing.

### Gifts and Bequests.

*Connellsville, Pa.* On April 22 Andrew Carnegie offered to give \$50,000 toward a public library building, provided a suitable site is furnished and the councils agree to provide funds annually to maintain and operate the library. The offer was immediately accepted.

*Harvard Univ. L.* On April 1 Harvard University received from Mrs. Frederick T. Phillips, of Lawrence, L. I., the sum of \$50,000 to establish a fund to be known as the Kenneth Matherson Taylor fund, the income to be expended annually in the purchase of books for the college library to increase its efficiency, so far as may be possible, in the department of English literature. This fund is given in memory of the donor's brother, Kenneth Matherson Taylor, of the class of '90, who was drowned on Lake Kinno, Maine, in the fall of 1895.

*McKeesport (Pa.) P. L.* Early in April Andrew Carnegie, in response to an appeal in behalf of the library, made by Mrs. Crabtree, president of the local women's club, offered to give to McKeesport the sum of \$50,000 for a building to contain a library, music hall, gymnasium, etc., on condition that the citizens furnish a site and provide for the future maintenance of the institution. The offer was promptly accepted. The present library was founded as an association library in 1875, which failed in 1881 and was reorganized under city control in 1883. It now contains about 4000 v., and has depended for support largely upon personal contributions. It is planned to establish a library commission to handle the Carnegie fund and have charge of the library, the commission to consist of 15 members, eight to be citizens and the remainder city officials; the former holding a life tenure, the latter serving during their terms of office; this plan is to be submitted to Mr. Carnegie for endorsement.

*Norfolk, Va. Seaboard Air Line R.R.* The travelling library system conducted, through the efforts of Mrs. E. B. Heard, by the Seaboard



Air Line for the benefit of its employes and the towns along its line has been given \$1000 by Andrew Carnegie, who requested that reports of the progress of the work be sent to him from time to time.

*Pittsburgh, Pa. Carnegie L.* On April 14 Andrew Carnegie offered to give \$1,750,000 to defray the cost of additions and improvements for the art, science, and library departments of the Carnegie building in Schenley park, providing the city will furnish the additional ground necessary. The amount promised by Mr. Carnegie is over double the cost of the present building.

*Utica (N. Y.) P. L.* The library has received from William Plerrepoint White, of Utica, the sum of \$1000, to be held as the nucleus of a fund for the erection of a new library building.

*Virginia Mechanics' Institute L., Richmond.* Andrew Carnegie has made a gift of \$1000 to the library of the institute.

*Washington (D. C.) P. L.* Mr. Carnegie has added \$50,000 to his former gift of \$250,000 for a building for the Washington Public Library.

### Librarians.

BAKER, George Hall, for 10 years librarian of Columbia University, has retired from that office, and has been made by vote of the university trustees librarian emeritus, with half pay, for life. Mr. Baker was elected librarian-in-chief of the university library in May, 1889, succeeding Melvil Dewey, who had become secretary of the University of the State of New York and librarian of the New York State Library. Mr. Baker had been assistant librarian for the preceding six years, and during the last year of that period acting chief librarian. Under his charge the library has been largely developed, and its work extended into co-operative lines, Columbia being one of the participants in the co-operative cataloging of serials, carried on through the A. L. A. Publishing Section, and sharing also in the co-operative work of the New York Public Library. Mr. Baker was born at Ashfield, Mass., on April 23, 1850. He prepared for college at Williston Seminary, and was graduated from Amherst College in 1874 in the same class with Melvil Dewey. He remained a year in post-graduate study at Amherst, and then spent two and a half years in travel and study in Europe, mainly at the University of Berlin, where he studied history and political science. He also became thoroughly conversant during these years with the most important European languages. On his return to this country he engaged in private teaching, writing, and study, and early in 1883 joined the editorial staff of "The Century dictionary." In August of that year he became assistant librarian at Columbia and two years later he added to his other work that of a lectureship on the bibliography of history and political science. He has been a member of the American Library Association since 1885, and has been long

interested in the New York Library Club, of which he was president in 1890-91.

CANFIELD, James Hulme, president of Ohio State University, has been appointed librarian of Columbia University Library, succeeding George H. Baker.

COOLBRITH, Miss Ina D., has resigned her position as librarian of the Mercantile Library of San Francisco, to become librarian of the Bohemian Club, of that city.

DOWNES, Miss Ethel, former student in the library class of Miss Theresa Hitchler, has been appointed cataloger at the Library of the University of Pennsylvania.

EDDY, Henry Hudson, graduate of the Pratt Institute Library School, class of '95, has been appointed head of the order department of the Carnegie Library, Pittsburgh.

GARNETT, Dr. Richard. A committee has been formed for the purpose of presenting Dr. Richard Garnett, now retired from his post as Keeper of Printed Books at the British Museum, with his portrait, as an expression of the regard in which he is held by those who have come into relations with him during his 48 years' service at the museum. The chairman of the committee is Leslie Stephen, and the hon. treasurer Mr. A. H. Huth, Bolney House, Ennismore Gardens, London, S. W.; Sidney Lee and Thomas Seccombe are hon. secretaries. At the March meeting of the L. A. U. K. resolutions were presented by the council, expressing the regret of the association at Dr. Garnett's retirement, and its recognition of his long and valuable labors. In acknowledging these resolutions Dr. Garnett said: "The change in my position will cause no change in my feelings toward libraries and librarians. I shall, as ever, rejoice in any opportunity of promoting the interests of the Library Association, and I trust that such opportunities may continue to occur." An address and testimonial will be presented to Dr. Garnett on behalf of the L. A. U. K.

GOOCH, Miss Harriet B., graduate of the Pratt Institute Library School, class of '98, has been appointed librarian of the North Brookfield (Mass.) Public Library.

HEWSON, Miss N. E., former student in the library class of Miss Theresa Hitchler, has been appointed cataloger at the Library of the University of Pennsylvania.

HUBBARD, Miss Anna G., graduate of the Pratt Institute Library School, class of '98, has been appointed assistant in the State Library at Indianapolis, Ind.

JACOBSEN, Miss Katrine H., graduate of the Pratt Institute Library School, class of '96, has been appointed assistant in the library of the American Society of Civil Engineers, New York.

JOBS, Miss Mary K., first assistant librarian of the Plainfield (N. J.) Public Library, has been appointed cataloger at the University of Pennsylvania Library; she has been succeeded by Miss Bowman, formerly second assistant.

MACALISTER, J. Y. W., long hon. secretary of the L. A. U. K., is the subject of an interesting biographical sketch in *The Library World* for April, which notes his many services toward the library cause in Great Britain.

MARVIN, Miss Cornelia, librarian of the Scoville Institute, Oak Park, Ill., has resigned that position to take charge of the organizing work carried on by the Wisconsin Free Library Commission, which will be extended and strengthened by the increased appropriation recently granted to the commission. Miss Marvin will also act as director of the Wisconsin Summer Library School, which she has conducted for several years past. In her work at the Scoville Institute she has been successful in many lines of library extension, and her present appointment should give added impetus to the admirable work of the Wisconsin commission.

MITCHELL, Miss Lucy Wright, assistant in the Library of the Drexel Institute, died at her home in Philadelphia on April 20, 1899, of typhoid fever. Miss Mitchell was a graduate of the Drexel Institute Library School, class of '97. She entered the Osterhout Library, Wilkes-Barre, Pa., immediately after graduation, and in October, 1898, joined the staff of the Drexel Institute Library, being in February, 1899, appointed instructor in the library school. During her brief connection with the school she had made for herself a lasting place in the affections of the students and of her fellow-workers.

MOORE, Miss Evva L., librarian of the Withers Public Library, of Bloomington, Ill., has been appointed librarian of Scoville Institute, Oak Park, Ill., succeeding Miss Cornelia Marvin. Miss Moore has been in charge of the Bloomington library for five years past, having directed its development from the time of its transfer to the city as a free public library, and brought it to large usefulness and efficiency. Her resignation takes effect June 1.

PARMELE, Miss Ella G., graduate of the class of '98 Pratt Institute Library School, has been appointed librarian of the State Normal School at Oshkosh, Wis.

WADLEIGH, Mrs. Harriet C., librarian of the Los Angeles Public Library, presented her resignation to the newly elected library board on March 31. At the request of the board, however, Mrs. Wadleigh has continued in charge of the library until further action by that body. The situation, briefly noted in the April JOURNAL, was further complicated by the action of the outgoing board immediately before its retirement, in appointing Miss Celia Gleason, first assistant, to be librarian, succeeding Mrs. Wadleigh, although its prior appointment of President Dockweiler of the board to that office was still in force. The new board referred a statement of affairs to the city attorney, in hope of enlightenment, and the decision rendered was that Mrs. Wadleigh had been illegally removed and that no vacancy in the librarianship existed.

## Cataloging and Classification.

The BOSTON BOOK Co.'s *Bulletin of Bibliography* for April (v. 1, no. 9) contains an informing article on "Children's magazines," by Harriet L. Matthews, of the Lynn (Mass.) Public Library, and a first instalment of a "Children's reading list on animals," compiled by the Pratt Institute Free Library, Brooklyn. The list, which is an excellent one, is also issued in separate form as no. 6 of the *Bulletin of Bibliography* pamphlets (10 c.), and it should prove serviceable in libraries where children's work is carried on.

The BOSTON P. L. *Bulletin* for April contains short descriptive summaries of the recent literature on "Baths and gymnasia" and "The labor movement in England and America," to each of which brief bibliographies are appended.

CHILOVI, Desiderio. Il catalogo della letteratura scientifica; estratto dalla *Nuova Antologia*, fasc. 1, marzo 1899 (v. 80, ser. 4). Roma, Direzione della Nuova Antologia, 1899. 24 p. O.

Signor Chilovi considers the project of the Royal Society with fairness, though not without criticism. He disapproves of any plan for consolidating the entries in book catalog form, and is opposed to the suggestion of translating into an accepted language all titles outside the few languages to be given in the original. He believes it is unnecessary to select any "universal language" for this purpose or for classification, as he finds the D. C. thoroughly adaptable to any language, and refers to its use by the Concilium Bibliographicum of Zurich.

ENGLISH catalogue of books: titles classified under author and subject in one strict alphabet, with particulars of the size, price, year of publication and name of publisher of works issued in Great Britain and Ireland, and the principal works published in America. Vol. 5: January, 1890, to December, 1897. London, Sampson Low, Marston & Co., Ltd., 1898. 1180 p. O.

This volume, which appeared well before the close of 1898, excels its predecessors in form as well as in size, and is an indispensable bibliographic guide and tool. It contains nearly 60,000 main entries, and 70,000 title or subject entries; is arranged in one alphabet, and includes useful appendixes of learned societies and serial publications, for which a special index is provided.

EXPANSIVE CLASSIFICATION. The index to class Q Medicine in the 7th of the Expansive classifications will be reprinted in a much enlarged form. All persons who have noticed omissions or errors in the present index are requested to send note of them to C: A. Cutter, Forbes Library, Northampton, Mass., or to Dr. G. E. Wire, Worcester Co. Law Library, Worcester, Mass.

The LOWELL (Mass.) P. L. *Bulletin* for April contains an excellent 9-page reference list on Birds.

MICHIGAN STATE L. Catalogue: United States documents, state documents, foreign exchanges. Lansing, Mich., 1898. 4 + 276 p. O.

This catalog covers all official documents received by the library from its organization in 1828 to June 1, 1898. The alphabetic arrangement is simple and effective, and contents are analyzed for such publications as the National Museum and Smithsonian reports. The division Maps covers 28 pages. The catalog should be useful in other libraries.

The *Monthly Cumulative Book Index*, published by Morris & Wilson, Minneapolis, began its second year with the number for February, 1899. In that number record was given of 1500 books, most of them published since the December issue, thus affording, with the December number, clue to the books issued since Jan. 1, 1898. Books are entered under author, subject, and title, and public documents are included under the name of the body issuing them.

NEW BEDFORD (Mass.) P. L. Annual list of new and important books added, from the monthly bulletins, 1898. 56 p. O.  
A classed linotype list.

The NEW BEDFORD (Mass.) P. L. *Bulletin* for March contains reference list no. 43 on Fine art.

NEW LONDON (Ct.) P. L. Supplement to the finding list, March, 1897 - March, 1899. 2 + 30 p. l. O.

A D. C. classed list, printed by the linotype.

PHILADELPHIA F. L. Bulletin, no. 2. Descriptive catalogue of the series of works known as the Library of old authors; by John Thomson. Philadelphia, March, 1899. 67 p. l. O.

For reference purposes, the second of the unique series of bulletins which has been undertaken by the Free Library of Philadelphia really constitutes a dictionary of old English authors. The first entry reads:

"A Series of Rare Works Collected and Printed under the Title of 'Library of Old Authors.' London: John Russell Smith, 1856, etc. 61 vols. 8vo.

"This series of works was undertaken by John Russell Smith and subsequently by Messrs. Reeves & Turner. The set under description comprises sixty-one volumes, and the works are described below alphabetically, under the name of the author. On Mr. Smith's retirement from business he sold this series to Mr. Reeves for £1000."

The descriptions of the 61 volumes consist of copies of the title-pages, and notes containing, besides bibliographical information, literary

criticism, and biographical anecdotes and sketches. Quotations and extracts even are not infrequently given, and in such cases as Hazlitt's collections of early popular poetry there are tables of contents giving each poem in alphabetical order, with the page on which it is to be found. In the "Library of old authors," it will be remembered, the 14th century is represented by Langland and his (?) Piers Ploughman, while the last "old author" included is Joseph Spence, whose work was done in the 18th century; the Mathers, father and son, are the only members of the company not identified with English soil. The index covers 25 of the 67 pages comprising the bulletin, and is minutely analytic in character. Typographically, these bulletins are a delight. No. 3 may be looked for in June or July, and will be devoted to Robert Herrick.

The PRATT INSTITUTE *Monthly* for May, which is a "Kindergarten number," contains some useful suggestions of books for mothers, compiled by Miss Alice E. Fitts, including books for reading to children and literature for parents.

The SAN FRANCISCO MECHANICS' INSTITUTE *Bulletin* for May contains a good five-column supplementary reference list on the Philippine Islands.

The ST. LOUIS P. L. *Magazine* has discontinued publication with the issue (early in April, 1899) of the belated number for November, 1898. Lack of enough subscribers to cover publication cost, and the demands made in other directions upon the library's income have made this decision necessary.

The SALEM (Mass.) P. L. *Bulletin* for April devotes its special reading list to an interesting survey of the various branches of "Periodical literature."

The SOMERVILLE (Mass.) L. *Bulletin* for April includes a special reference list on Somerville, its history, institutions, industries, etc., and continues its list of Massachusetts town histories.

The SPRINGFIELD (Mass.) CITY L. *Bulletin* for April is almost wholly given up to a first instalment of a list of "fiction for adults," A-M. This is an admirable list, well selected yet catholic enough, and should be helpful as a purchase guide in many libraries.

UNIVERSITY OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK. State library bulletin, bibliography no. 15 - 17. January, 1899: 15, Russia; 16, Nature study in preparatory schools; 17, Bibliography of musicians; submitted for graduation N. Y. State Library School. Albany, 1899. p. 433 - 576. O. pap. 15 c.

The reading list on Russia is by Anna Louise Morse, that on nature study by Clara W. Hunt, and the bibliography on musicians is by Arthur L. Bailey. All are excellent and form useful contributions to the literature of special bibliography.

WARDER P. L., *Springfield, O.* Class catalogue and author index, 1899. Springfield, O., 1899. 340 p. O.

The library was reclassified according to the D. C. and copy prepared for printer within less than four months, by Mrs. Hustis, formerly of the Pratt Institute Library School, and Miss Alice Burrowes, librarian. The D. C. class list is followed by fiction lists, adult and juvenile, and an author index of the other classes. The work is especially creditable when the insufficient time given to its preparation is considered. It is a pity that it is poorly printed on coarse, heavy manila paper.

WISCONSIN F. L. COMMISSION. Supplement to suggestive list of popular books for small libraries, April, 1899. 4 p. O.

A classed list of more recent books, giving publishers and prices.

The WORCESTER (*Mass.*) F. P. L. has issued a special 12-page reading list on "Birds."

### Bibliography.

AFRICA. Johnston, Sir Harry H. A history of the colonization of Africa by alien races. Cambridge, University Press, 1899. 13 + 319 p. (Cambridge historical series.) maps, 12°.

Contains a three-page bibliography of books specially useful on the history of African colonization.

DEER. Lydekker, R. Deer of all lands : a history of the family cervidæ, living and extinct. London, R. Ward, 1898. 350 p. 4°. 105s. net. Contains a bibliography (p. 317-323).

GENOA. Manno, Ant. Bibliografia di Genova. Torino, G. B. Paravia, 1899. 539 p. 8°.

GEOGRAPHY. Jacobs, Joseph. The story of geographical discovery : how the world became known. N. Y., Appleton, 1899. 200 p. T. 40 c.

There are citations to authorities appended to each chapter.

GREECE. Botsford, G. Willis. A history of Greece for high schools and academies. N. Y., Macmillan, 1899. 13 + 381 p. 12°. net, \$1.10.

Contains a 4-page bibliography with publishers and prices, classified for "The smallest library," "A good library," and "A larger library," each list including the preceding.

HADRIAN. Gregorovius, Ferdinand. The emperor Hadrian : a picture of the Graeco-Roman world in his time; tr. by M. E. Robinson. London, Macmillan, 1898. 436 p. 12s. net.

Contains a bibliography, p. 382-402.

KENOTICISM. Hall, Francis J. The kenotic theory, considered with particular reference

to its Anglican forms and arguments. N. Y., Longmans, 1898. 18 + 247 p. 12°.

Contains a 5-page bibliography.

LABOR. Marot, Helen, comp. A handbook of labor literature : being a classified list of the more important books and pamphlets in the English language. Philadelphia, Free Library of Economics and Political Science, 1315 Filbert st., 1899. 8 + 96 p. S. \$1.

An excellent classed annotated list, to which is appended an author index, list of general bibliographies of the subject, bureaus of labor, and labor periodicals. Miss Marot is librarian of the Philadelphia library that issues the handbook.

POWER LOCOMOTION. Jenkins, Rhys. Power locomotion on the highway : a guide to the literature relating to traction engines and steam road rollers and to the propulsion of common road carriages and velocipedes by steam and other mechanical powers. London, W. Cate, Ltd. [1896]. 72 p. 8°.

PUNISHMENT. Sears, C. H. Home and school punishments. (*In The Pedagogical Seminary*, March, 1899. 6:159-187.)

Followed by a two-page bibliography.

REFRACTION. Donders, F. C. An essay on the nature and the consequences of anomalies of refraction; rev. and ed. by C. A. Oliver. Philadelphia, P. Blakiston's Son & Co., 1899. 10 + 81 p. 11. 8°.

Contains a short bibliography.

### Anonymous and Pseudonyms.

"Elizabeth and her German garden" was said by the *Athenaeum* of April 1 to be by Miss May Beauchamp, now Countess von Arnim; in a later issue of the *Athenaeum* this statement is contradicted by the Macmillan Co., the publishers of the book.

"The autobiography of a child," which has been appearing serially in *Blackwood's Magazine*, was stated by the *Academy* (Ap. 8) to be by Miss Hannah Lynch, a statement later confirmed.

The following are from the "Catalogue of title entries of books" issued by the Register of Copyright, Library of Congress:

"The blended flags" (Danville, Va., Vance Bros.) is by Mrs. Maie Day. 18:13 (Mr. 30, '99).

"Letters of a family during the war for the Union" (New Haven, Tuttle, Morehouse & Taylor) is by Mrs. Georgeanna Woolsey Bacon and Mrs. Eliza Woolsey Howland. 18:13 (Mr. 30, '99).

"Traveler's yarns and new funny jokes, comp. and arr. by A knight of the grip," is by Thomas J. Carey. 18:12 (Mr. 23).

Pierson, Sylvanus, pseud. of S. P. Jermain, "Wrecks and wreckers," 18:12 (Mr. 23).



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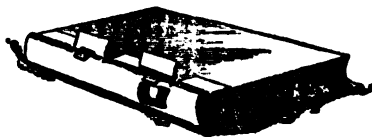
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VOL. 24.

JUNE, 1899.

No. 6

IN July the third annual meeting of the Library Department of the National Educational Association will be held, in connection with the general conference of the association at Los Angeles. Two sessions have been arranged for, at which various aspects of co-operative work between libraries and schools promise to receive thorough presentation. The report on the relations of public libraries to public schools, on which the committee representing both the N. E. A. and the A. L. A. have expended much time and labor, will be considered in general discussion, and the fact that the meeting will naturally give special emphasis to the teacher's point of view should make it of special value to librarians. It is gratifying that since its establishment this section of the N. E. A. has enlisted the sympathy and effort of earnest and interested workers both from the school and from the library field, and there can be no question but that it has aided to a better understanding and clearer formulation of the principles that should underlie this co-operative work. It is to be hoped that the proceedings of the Los Angeles meeting of this department may be printed in separate form and made available for general distribution among librarians.

ONE of the most interesting results of the present sentiment in favor of the adoption of some form of open access in libraries is to be looked for in the field of library construction. That a type of library architecture varying from present models must be developed to meet these new conditions seems almost inevitable, and we have already seen several steps toward such development. In small libraries the question is not especially complex, but in the case of a central library building for a great city provision for general free access is no simple task. Mr. Dana has pictured the library building of the future on the lines of the modern office building, many storied, grouping departments for ready access, and placing rapidity and efficiency of service above architectural conventions. This, however, is theory; its presentation in practice seems unlikely, even through

the medium of free access. Probably the New-ark library has gone further in this general direction than any other of the new large buildings, though it provides for general free access only in the separate fiction and biography rooms, the stack rooms for the main collection of the library being a modification of the ordinary construction, which makes unrestricted access difficult. In the new building of the Pawtucket Public Library, described elsewhere, free access will be provided for, but this will necessitate radical changes from the original designs and the details are not yet perfected, while the fact that this is not one of the larger libraries simplifies the question. It is to Philadelphia that most librarians will look for a fresh treatment of the subject. The recent supreme court decision confirming the Philadelphia loan bill seems to promise the final authorization of the million dollar appropriation for the Philadelphia Free Library building, and as this library has been an example and force in the development of free access it is not likely to modify its principles on account of architectural difficulties. If this building is planned to house the great central collection of a great city library in such fashion that free access is given to the whole, it will mark a new type of library architecture.

THE outrage upon the reading and book-buying public, and upon libraries, in publishing the same book simultaneously under two different titles, seems to be becoming epidemic. A new instance is an encyclopædia in six volumes, published in Philadelphia under one title and in St. Louis under another. When Mr. Whitney called attention to the protean changes in book titles in his essay on "A modern Proteus," publishers of the lower sort had not advanced to the present stage of evolution, which does not even wait for a book to become old before giving it a new title. Nothing could be more confusing and less justifiable than to send out the same book or set of books under different titles, for the only reason for such diversity must be an endeavor to impress one set of

readers differently from another set of readers or else to procure fraudulently two sales for the same book. Librarians should do their best to expose this trick by carefully scrutinizing books offered them from publishers whose reputation is not known and by reporting any duplication of titles or other endeavors to cheat promptly to the *LIBRARY JOURNAL*. It is to be hoped also that the Copyright Office may be able to find some way of checking or pointing out this abuse.

### Communications.

#### SUMMER OPENING IN THE NEW YORK LIBRARIES.

FROM Mr. Eames's paper, in the May number of the *LIBRARY JOURNAL*, entitled "The Lenox Library and its founders," I quote the following: "Beginning with 1893 the Lenox Library was the first large public library in New York, I believe, to make the innovation of keeping open throughout the entire summer and on holidays."

Mr. Eames has not been correctly informed on this point. Previous to the year 1874 this library was accustomed in summer to close for two weeks. In 1874 the library was kept open the entire summer and it has not been closed during any summer since that date, excepting at the time of our removal.

We believe we antedate the Lenox in this "innovation" almost 30 years.

W. T. PROPLES.

MERCANTILE LIBRARY, {  
Astor Place, New York. }

#### SCOTT'S EDITION OF SWIFT.—A FINAL WORD.

WILL you permit me through your columns to thank the correspondents who have had the kindness to answer the question put in the April number of the *LIBRARY JOURNAL* relating to Scott's second edition of Swift's works, Edinburgh, 1824. When it was discovered that the sixth volume of the copy belonging to this library lacked pp. 347-8, the bookseller of whom it was ordered was at once notified, and he in turn claimed a perfect copy of volume 6 to replace the imperfect one.

In the course of time, the London agent answered that the only copies offered to him were two; one of them in the original boards with edges uncut; in both copies the leaf in question was wanting. The agent then examined a copy of volume 6, which he borrowed from a set for the purpose, in which he states the leaf pagged 347-8 "looked as if it had been stuck in, and did not belong to the signature." A second letter states further that "the copy in the British Museum has the leaf inverted, looking as if it had been inserted after the volume was printed."

In disproof of the conclusion of the London agent "that the edition was printed minus pp. 347-8 of volume 6," there are two sets of this

edition in a neighboring library, both sets gifts to the library, but with an interval between of thirty years; volume 6 of each set is complete, the leaf pagged 347-8 apparently bound in place, and seemingly it belongs to the signature.

Having reached this point in our investigation, it seems to be a matter of interest to know the experience of other libraries with this edition of Swift.

CAROLINE A. FARLEY.

RADCLIFFE COLLEGE LIBRARY, {  
Cambridge, Mass. }

#### A CO-OPERATIVE LIST OF INCUNABULA.

AMONGST the matters discussed at the Atlanta conference was included the co-operative work undertaken (among other things) to procure a hand list of incunabula (limiting the date to books printed prior to 1501) owned by colleges, libraries, and private owners in America.

This list is intended to be a contribution to the exhibition or quincenary celebration to be held at Mainz (Germany) in memory of John Gutenberg.

Till this work was entered upon it was hardly imagined what a wealth of incunabula there is in America. I have at the present time heard from five sources only, and the number of volumes already exceeds 1500. Many lists are being prepared by different librarians, and Mr. Samuel P. Avery and others are interesting themselves to obtain the names of volumes in the possession of private persons. One private owner has furnished me a list of 400 incunabula owned by himself. Others are sending in lists of from one to a dozen volumes preserved amongst their library treasures.

The only object of the hand list is that students and others may know where these treasures are, so that, if in editing valuable books it becomes necessary to consult these volumes, it may be possible to go to the best specimens, if the library owners will allow collation or examination of their treasures.

In order that those who are preparing these lists may know exactly what is desired, will you give me space to say that what we want is a tabulated statement, giving the following particulars:

1. Author.
2. Title of the work in full.
3. Date of publication.
4. Place of publication or press.
5. Bibliographical reference, e.g., Hain 818; or e.g., Panzer, tome 1, page 177, no. 176.
6. Notes.

I beg to repeat the request that I made when speaking on this subject at Atlanta. If the work is to be as valuable as it can be made, I trust that all librarians having in their own charge, or having knowledge where incunabula are to be found, will be kind enough to communicate with me at the earliest possible date, giving me such particulars as they can, and at least the names and addresses of persons with whom I may communicate upon the subject. I should like to see this hand list creditable to America and worthy the important subject with which it deals.

JOHN THOMSON.

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## A MODEL LIBRARIAN THREE HUNDRED YEARS AGO.\*

BY HENRY CARRINGTON BOLTON.

THE nucleus of the Imperial Library at Vienna was formed in the first half of the 15th century, even prior to the invention of printing, when the Emperor Friedrich V., of the Hapsburg dynasty, gave orders that the manuscripts in the palace and other buildings should be collected and systematically arranged; this task was intrusted to two distinguished scholars, Æneas Sylvius Piccolomini, the imperial historian and poet (who afterwards became Pope Pius II.), and Georg von Purbach, an astronomer who had been honored by the Vienna Academy with the degree of Doctor of Mathematics. This collection of manuscripts was enlarged by the addition of Latin and Greek codexes secured at the pillage of Constantinople, and the embryo library was afterwards enriched by books printed in Friedrich's reign. The actual foundation, however, of the royal library dates from 1497, when Maximilian I., the son of Friedrich, deputed Conrad Celtis, lecturer on poetry and philosophy at the Vienna High School, to gather books and manuscripts from different parts of the country to build up a library worthy of the empire.

The library grew slowly by purchase and by bequests, and under Maximilian II. it was long without a director and sadly neglected. About 15 months, however, before the Emperor died he appointed Hugo Blotz librarian, the first in Vienna to bear this honorable name; the decree was dated June 15, 1575, and contained the instructions of his "sacred Cæsarean Majesty" to compare the titles in the inventory with the books on the shelves, and to add the titles needed to complete the catalog, which was to be made in duplicate, one for the librarian and one for the Emperor himself.

Hugo Blotz, usually called by his Latinized name Blotius, was a native of Delft in the Netherlands, and little is known of his early history; at the time of his appointment he held the chair of jurisprudence at the University of Strassburg (founded in 1538), and had a high reputation as lecturer. After being installed as librarian he at once showed ability and aptitude for the position, infusing new life into the lethargic institution; he introduced a systematic arrangement of the books, and worked

diligently and rapidly at the inventory, completing it in duplicate on April 24, 1576.

The library was inadequately housed in the Cloisters of the Minorites adjoining the hospital of the same order, and was insufficiently lighted, so that in August of the same year Blotius, having received permission from the authorities, had more windows cut in the walls. Soon after he applied for rooms in the neighboring building to be fitted up for his residence, in order that he might always be near his work. His energy and industry were only equalled by his intelligent appreciation of the real needs of a library; he had been but a short time in office when he sent a communication to the Emperor Maximilian inquiring whether it was his will that visitors should be admitted to read in the library, and whether scholars should be allowed to take out books for their use. The Emperor, to his credit, replied that both should be granted under proper restrictions as respects the persons to whom the privileges might be extended; "for," he added, "a library may be ever so well stocked with books and be scientifically classified, but if it be not open to public use it is like a lighted candle under an inverted measure, the rays of which illumine no one."

Maximilian II. died Oct. 12, 1576, and was succeeded by his son Rudolph II., who established his court at Prague, where he gathered around him astrologers, alchemists, and men learned in occult science, artists and craftsmen, devoting himself to the cultivation of the pseudo-sciences and to the formation of a museum of art and archæology. He was not especially interested in literature, but showed liberality to the growing library at Vienna, and retained Blotius in office. Some years after Rudolph's accession the library was enriched by the collection of books formed by Johannes Sambucus, the Hungarian physician, historian, archæologist, and poet. This addition numbered 2600 volumes, and its arrangement cost Blotius and his assistants much thought and toil.

On Sept. 8, 1579, Blotius addressed a memorial to Emperor Rudolph suggesting plans for increasing, beautifying, and improving the library, which were grouped under three heads:

I. Means of improving the library without

\* Read before the Library Association of Washington City, May 3, 1899.

expense. Under this caption the librarian recommended that the law requiring copies of new books to be deposited in the library by their authors (already an old regulation) be more strictly enforced; also that the custom of presenting to private libraries books belonging to the royal collection be discontinued; and that the return of books loaned to noblemen and scholars be insisted upon. The library had lost, he wrote, a great many volumes through the carelessness of borrowers; sometimes the books were retained by persons until their death and only returned by their heirs, if at all.

II. Proposals for increasing and improving the library with small expenditure. Of books printed in foreign countries only the most necessary and useful by distinguished authors should be purchased; many new books required binding and some old ones were in need of repairs. The library building, he suggested, ought to be made attractive by the purchase of canvases for decorating its walls, and of easel pictures by eminent artists. These improvements, Blotius estimated, could be accomplished at an annual outlay of 300 gulden, of which 200 should be expended for an increase and 100 for the embellishment of the library.

III. The third division of the memorial set forth the qualifications of a librarian; he should hold no other office, he should be skilled in languages, upright, faithful, industrious, enterprising, not poor, not superstitious, a friend of science and a lover of nature. To conduct the affairs of the library properly would occupy all the time of the chief librarian as well as of his assistants. The director of the Vatican Library in Rome, wrote Blotius, is a Cardinal, and those at Florence, Munich, and Paris have at their head men of high rank, and the librarian of the Imperial Library at Vienna ought also to be a nobleman, clothed with dignity and authority, so that when travelling on business he could have unrestricted admission to libraries and institutions in every city, for not only the common people but even the well-born esteem a man according to his attire and honorable titles. The court librarian ought to be a Privy Councillor, and if not of a noble family he should be raised to a high rank. This artful memorial filled 24 folios, and closed with promises to carry out the wishes of the Emperor and to advance the interests of the library in every way possible.

As too often happens, even at the present day, the address was respectfully heard and pigeon-holed. No reply being received, the indefatigable

Blotius wrote again the following year, saying he supposed the delay in responding was due to the troublous times in the monarchy, and perhaps the treasury was unable to make grants for the maintenance of the library. "At the same time," he wrote, "I am most anxious to elevate your Majesty's library to the highest plane, and I labor day and night at nothing else."

Blotius also asked to be relieved of the chair of rhetoric in order to give his entire time to the library, but as this office brought him 100 gulden a year, he asked to have his salary increased 200 gulden, out of which sum he engaged to pay the wages of two copyists employed to prepare copies of rare manuscripts for printing. He also promised that if the president of the Privy Council found his book purchases unsatisfactory, he (Blotius) would engage to assume the obligation and to pay for the books out of his private purse, so that the Emperor would lose nothing through errors of judgment on the part of the librarian. The letter concluded with these words: "These propositions are made by your Majesty's most faithful and devoted servant by reason of his great esteem and high ambition to serve him, not as if I had money to spare (no one has less), but because my sole desire is to build up the library to the honor of your Majesty."

The unselfish appeals of this persistent and capable man were at last rewarded; in a decree dated July 12, 1580, the Emperor placed at Blotius' disposal 1000 gulden. It should be remembered that money at that period had tenfold its present purchasing power.

To increase the usefulness of the growing library, scholars living at a distance were permitted to draw out books. The great reputation acquired by Hugo Blotius through his liberal policy made him many friends, and unfortunately for him a few active enemies who became jealous of his position and sought to undermine it. An investigation of trumped-up charges was made; he was accused of being a Protestant, which was true, and as such an enemy of the state, which was false; the investigating committee reported against him, and by a decree dated Nov. 5, 1600, Richard von Strein was appointed curator of the library over the head of Blotius; Strein, however, lived only a few months, and Blotius regained the place he had previously filled with so great distinction. As he advanced in years his strength was not equal to his energy, and he

secured the services of Sebastian Tegnagel as assistant, who, after Blotius' death, on Jan. 29, 1608, became his worthy successor.

Taking into consideration the backward state of library economy at that early period, the

liberal policy of Blotius towards readers, his intelligent plans for making the library attractive, and his earnest, faithful, and efficient labors for its improvement, fairly entitle him to be called a "Model Librarian."

## HISTORICAL MANUSCRIPTS AND PRINTS IN THE NEW YORK PUBLIC LIBRARY, AND THE METHOD OF CATALOGING THEM.\*

BY H. M. LYDENBERG, *New York Public Library, Lenox Building.*

THE manuscript collections of the New York Public Library fall into two broad groups: first, individual manuscripts of various kinds, ranging from oriental and illuminated manuscripts, Bibles and parts thereof, to Washington's farewell address in his own handwriting, a copy of the Declaration of Independence and a draft of a proposed constitution for Virginia in the handwriting of Thomas Jefferson, an engrossed copy of the first twelve amendments suggested to the constitution, and others of similar nature and interest; second, collections of papers, more or less extensive, relating sometimes to a few closely connected subjects, and including at other times a wider range. It is to this latter class that these notes apply.

For convenience of reference we have designated these collections by the name of the author or collector, as in the case of the papers of Samuel Adams and of Lord Hardwicke, or by a phrase descriptive of their nature or character, as in the case of certain Spanish-American papers. The separate documents in the collection are each numbered and are referred to by that number.

The earliest collection is the Spanish-American papers; this consists of about 170 volumes, transcripts and original documents, relating mainly to the history of Spanish America, north and south. The nucleus of the collection consists of part of the documents collected by Juan Bautista Muñoz for his "Historia del nuevo mundo"; after his death his papers were scattered, but some were saved by his friend Antonio Uguina, of Madrid. The volumes in possession of the latter were used by Navarette for his "Coleccion," and by Irving for his "Columbus," Henri Ternaux-Compans next secured them at the death of Uguina and drew upon

them for his "Recueil"; at his death they went to Obadiah Rich, of London, who added some of the duplicates from the library of Lord Kingsborough, and then sold the collection to Mr. Lenox, about 1849.

The manuscripts that came with the Bancroft library relate mainly to the history of English North America during the colonial and revolutionary periods. One of the most valuable of the original collections in this lot is the Adams papers, letters to Samuel Adams and drafts of his replies and of his public papers, between 1764 and 1801; these papers are bound in nine folio volumes. Closely connected with them are the papers of the Massachusetts Committee of Correspondence, in three volumes, the minutes of the Boston committee, in 12 thin volumes, and the two volumes of votes and proceedings of the Massachusetts House of Representatives, in the handwriting of Samuel Adams. The papers of Joseph Hawley, of Northampton, and the papers relating to the German mercenaries employed in the revolution deserve more than mere mention, but space forbids. The transcripts secured by Mr. Bancroft cover a wide range, comprising personal papers, such as Governor Bernard's correspondence, the memoirs of the Duke of Grafton, letters of Thomas Hutchinson, and documentary material from the State Paper Office, and from the archives of France, Austria, and other German states.

At the Barlow sale in 1889 the library secured an important collection of papers from the library of the historian Chalmers; these, complemented by similar volumes from Chalmers's collection that came with the Bancroft library, consist of about 20 volumes, and relate mainly to English colonial America.

In the Emmet collection there are about 70 bound volumes, made up of manuscripts, prints, drawings, etc., and relating in the main to the

\* Read before the New York Library Club.

revolutionary period of American history; besides the bound volumes there are also many unbound prints and manuscripts.

The collections mentioned so far have related to American history; English and European history is the main interest of the Hardwicke papers. These are about 140 volumes of transcripts and original material, brought together by Lord Hardwicke, chancellor under George II., and by his sons, the second earl and the Hon. Charles Yorke. In point of time the papers range from Elizabeth and Mary to the third quarter of the 18th century.

Besides these larger collections there are also many comprised within one or two volumes, such as the papers of James Barbour, of Captain James Bowie, of Henry Dearborn, of John Smyth of Nibley, and others.

With the exception of the John Smyth of Nibley papers, calendared in the *Bulletin* for July, 1897, and of the press copies of Washington's letters, calendared in the *Bulletin* for July, 1898, the indexing of the manuscripts has been confined mainly to those in the Emmet collection. This collection contains, besides manuscripts, a large number of prints, portraits, views, engravings, maps, many broadsides, and even single newspapers inserted here and there. Because of this variety of material, and because in cataloging the volumes for the printed lists in the *Bulletin*, we are forced to treat all these various items at the same time, we have adopted form headings for many of the entries. Such a device would have been unnecessary in a catalog of prints alone, or of broadsides, or of manuscripts; however, cataloging such a collection as it reached us bound, and printing separately the index to each individual volume, it became necessary to make use of some heading indicative at once of the nature and character of the thing described in the entry that followed.

For the prints we have adopted four form headings: *Portrait*, *Caricature*, *View*, and *Engraving*; but the method of cataloging is much the same in all cases. The object sought for is description for identification, and into this description enter seven items, as will be seen from the following sample entry:

*Portrait: Hopkins* (Essek). Bust, three-quarters to the left. In an oval frame. Inscription: *R. Pollard sc.*

*Commodore Hopkins. Printed for T. Robson, Newcastle upon Tyne. Line. 8°.*

EM. 1904

Also in J. Murray's *An impartial history of the present war in America*, vol. 2 (London, 1780) p. 289.

First, the character of the print, which is represented by the form heading, printed at the beginning in italics. Second, the subject, represented by the heading in black-faced type. Third, the general appearance of the print; this includes, when necessary, a description of the characters or figures (as in the case of a portrait, a statement as to whether the figure is half length or bust, seated or standing, or in what direction it is looking, facing, and directed); after this follows in italics or within quotation marks the inscription upon the plate. Fourth, the artist and engraver, if their names do not appear in the inscription, and if they can be found. Fifth, the process, whether line, stipple, mezzotint, wood engraving, etc. Sixth, the place and date of publication; if, however, the print can be identified as from some printed book, and the fact is stated in a note, this item is omitted here, the imprint of the volume in the note suggesting the date and place of the print. We seek in all cases to give at least an approximate indication of this item, a suggestion, at least, that the work was done in the middle of the 18th century, or the last quarter of it, and that the place was probably England or France, or the continent, and so on. Seventh, the size, which is indicated in ordinary cases by 8°, 4°, f°; where these terms would be insufficient the size is given in inches. Any other information is added as a note; thus, mezzotinto portraits are referred to J. C. Smith's "British mezzotinto portrait"; miscellaneous portraits to one of the well-known catalogs, such as Bromley, Rose, or Evans; to portraits of Washington we add Baker's number. If the print has been taken from a book, or when the same engraving appears in a book, we refer, if possible, to the source from which it comes, or where a similar example may be found.

The free-hand drawings and water-color sketches in the volumes are treated in the same way as the prints.

With regard to the form heading, the rule is to enter portraits, caricatures, and views of places as such, disregarding the mode or process of reproduction. Views of battles are en-

tered with the form heading *View*, the main heading being the best known form of the name, and not the place at which the engagement took place; thus, a view of the battle of Saratoga is entered as *View: Saratoga, Battle of*, and not as *View: Schuylersville, N. Y.* The form headings *Drawing* and *Engraving* are reserved for free-hand drawings and prints of such a miscellaneous character as not to fit in easily with the other headings.

Before the type of the *Bulletin* has been distributed twelve impressions of the list are run off, printed upon one side only of the paper. Two sets of these are cut up, and each entry is mounted upon an ordinary catalog card. Of these two mounted entries the following disposition is made. One card of the *portrait* entries is filed with the "portrait" group, in which the cards are arranged alphabetically according to subject. The second card is reserved for the group of "engravers," in which the cards are arranged alphabetically according to the engravers, the name of the engraver being written in the upper left-hand corner. *Caricatures* undergo similar treatment, supplying one card for the group of "caricatures," and one for that of the "engravers"; in the case of personal caricatures a third card is filed among the "portraits." Engraved *views* give one card to the group of "maps, plans, charts, and views," and one to the "engravers"; *views* in the shape of free-hand drawings or water-color sketches send one card to the group of "draughtsmen," and the other to the general collection of "views." Of *engravings*, one card goes to the "engravers," the other among the miscellaneous engravings, where it is filed according to the heading in heavy-faced type. A similar arrangement is made for the *drawings*.

In cataloging the maps, plans, and charts in the Emmet collection, the general rules for cataloging other maps and charts are followed, except that we add the form heading *Map, Plan, or Chart*; after this follows the subject entry, then the inscription, place, publisher, date, size, scale, whether engraved or not, the coloring, and the mounting. When the cards with the mounted entries are filed one goes to the group of "maps, plans, charts, and views," and the second card to the "engravers" or "draughtsmen" group; if the engraver or draughtsman is unknown, however, the card is put into the miscellaneous reserve that we call "stock."

Broadsides come under the ordinary rules of cataloging printed material. No form heading is used. In the case of publications of the Continental Congress or of early Pennsylvania imprints we refer in a note to Mr. Paul L. Ford's "Bibliography of the official publications of the Continental Congress," or to Mr. Charles R. Hildeburn's "Issues of the press in Pennsylvania." The single copies of newspapers that are sometimes bound in the Emmet volumes are treated according to the same rules. One mounted card is used for each of these groups.

Two more form headings are used: *Paper-money* for the specimens of continental currency that appear in the volumes, and *Clipping* for miscellaneous cuttings from newspapers and magazines that cannot be described as broadside or newspaper. They are entered under the subject; one card for each is filed in its proper group.

I come now to the manuscripts proper. In describing a work in manuscript we have fixed upon eight items as material for identification: the author; the title, which, of course, is often factitious; the language, if other than English; whether original or transcript; the date and place of writing; the number of pages or leaves in each volume; the size, which is given usually by 8°, 4°, f°, etc., but is expressed in inches when necessary; and last, the binding.

In describing analytically the contents of a book in manuscript if it consists of a collection of papers, we have adopted the two form headings *Letter* and *Document* to denote the character of the individual pieces. The description of one differs in no material respect from that of the other, the two form headings serving mainly as a convenient indicator of the character of the thing described. As will be seen from the following sample entry seven items are considered in the description:

*Letter: Smith (James). [Philadelphia,] Mar. 20, 1781. To Joseph Reed. He declines an appointment as judge of the court of appeals, because his constituents would be dissatisfied if he were to leave the House at this time. A. L. S. Endorsed. 1 page. 4°.*

EM. 3002

First, the form heading, represented as before by italic type. Second, the author, represented by the heavy-faced type. Third, the place and

date. Fourth, if a letter, to whom addressed ; but in the case of a document this item often is combined conveniently with the following. Fifth, the description, or analysis of the contents. Sixth, the matter of authenticity, that is, whether entirely in the autograph of the author or not, which we indicate by the abbreviations A. L. S. for autograph letter signed, A. D. S. for autograph document signed, A. L. for autograph letter, A. D. for autograph document, L. S. for letter signed, and D. S. for document signed ; with this item is also included the information as to whether it is witnessed or sealed, whether marked "private," "copy," etc., whether endorsed or not, and if so whether any additional and important information is given there. Seventh, the size, which is shown by the number of pages and the ordinary marks of 8°, 4°, f°, etc. With the exception of the fifth item, the analysis, the other items are more or less fixed ; but the amount of space to be given to this item varies with each separate entry. It has been our practice to err on the side of fulness rather than on that of too scanty treatment, the underlying idea being, perhaps, if formulated in words, to make each separate statement complete in itself rather than merely suggestive. Whatever additional information is given, such as the fact that the letter or document has been printed, or references designed to qualify or to amplify statements in the document itself, is supplied in the form of a note.

When mounted, the entries are grouped into two arrangements, one chronological, the other alphabetical. Printed entries alone are included in the first arrangement ; the second, however, is supplemented by additional entries, which are written upon manila slips uniform in size with the catalog cards upon which the entries are mounted. These additional entries include notices of the receivers of each letter, of the subjects and persons mentioned, and of the signers of documents or letters whose names do not appear in the main entry.

They are made out after the following forms :

Reed (Joseph)

Letters to him

1781, Mar. 20, from James Smith.

RM. 3002

Hodge (Hugh)

Mention

1797, Sept. 10, Benjamin Rush to Ashbel Green. RM. 2942

Hart (John)

For A. L. S. see also

1777, Nov. 7, New Jersey — Assembly, to Robert Maxwell. RM. 2873

The mounted cards and the manila slips are so arranged as to collect in chronological sequence, first, all letters or documents written by a man, second, all addressed to him, and third, all in which mention is made of him. We thus secure an index to the material dated at any given time, and to the material relating to any given individual.

The above remarks have special application to the official catalog ; for the public catalog the same arrangement is followed, except that in it are filed only printed cards, which are not supplemented by entries in manuscript on the manila slips.

#### CATALOGING OF FIFTEENTH CENTURY BOOKS.

IN the May number of the *Library Association Record* Mr. J. P. Edmond, librarian of the Earl of Crawford's fine collection, gives interesting suggestions on the "Cataloging of 15th century books," based upon his own experience in cataloging the 15th century books in the "Bibliotheca Lindesiana." He says: "I was unwilling to adopt in its entirety any one of the systems with which I was acquainted. It was my wish to employ such a method as would unmistakably identify the books in question, and at the same time avoid the use of signs which are always more or less of a conundrum, even to the initiated." A model was made in the form of a description of a book, taken from the shelves almost at hazard, which was printed in slip form and proofs submitted for criticism to Lord Crawford, Mr. F. Jenkinson, E. Gordon Duff, and R. Proctor, whose suggestions were for the most part adopted. This slip, which is reprinted to accompany the article, is shown herewith, and is the text upon which Mr. Edmond comments, as follows :

## Bossus, Matthaeus.

De instituendo sapientia animo.

Bologna, P. de Benedictis, 6 Nov. 1495.

4°. 8 in. Roman letter, with printed signatures but without numeration or catchwords; 25 and 24 lines.

Collation: a<sup>4</sup> (not signed); 4 leaves (1-4). A-Ps Q; 124 leaves (5-128).

Leaf 1<sup>a</sup> De Institvendo Sapientia Animo.

Leaf 2<sup>a</sup> Mathaeus Bossus Veronen-sis Canonicus Regularis Svo | In Domino Patri Et Concanonico Merito Percollendo Seiverino Calcho Salvtem.

Leaf 4<sup>a</sup>, line 15 Verone ex Cœnobio sancti Leonardi. xiii. Calendas | Octobres. mccccclxxxv. a foelicitate | Christianæ salutis.

Leaf 4<sup>b</sup> Matthaei Bossi Veronen sis Canonici Regularis De | Institvendo Sapientia | Animo Disputatio-nes Per Dies . viii . | In Patris . D. Leonardi Ivixta Veroniam | Religiosissime Habitas Lector A-gnoscito Pie/qve Gvsta | to Qvibvs | O Vere | Sapiens | Per Christvm Evadito.

Leaf 5<sup>a</sup> (A. i.) Argvmentvm. | p Rimus incipit liber: in quo describitur a-mœnissimus disputationis locus: . . .

Leaf 126<sup>a</sup> (Q 2) line 10 De Institvendo Sapientia Animo Octava Et Vltima | Collatio | Finilt.

Leaf 126<sup>b</sup> Recognito post impressione uolumine carptim | errata admodū grauia perspecta sunt nulla. . . .

Leaf 127<sup>a</sup> (Q 3) M. Antonii Aldegathi Mantuani ad lectorem | Epigramma.

Leaf 127<sup>b</sup> Register and printer's device.

Leaf 128<sup>a</sup> (Q 4) [Colophon] Opus hoc Impressum ē q accuratissima | fide et diligētia licuit: sano distinc | toq<sub>3</sub> caractere a Platone de Be[n]edictis Bo[n]oniz Anno Salu-tis Millesimoquad-rin-gentisimo - nonagesi - moquinto | Octauo Idus Nouembres. Laus Deo.

Leaf 128<sup>b</sup> blank.

Half red morocco. This copy, Comte D. Boutourlin's, with his book-plate.

Hain \*3677, Panzer 1. 231, Brunet 1. 1140, Grasse 1. 503, Auliffredi 101.

"1. The short title, place of printing, printer's name, and date are stated distinctly and are printed in larger type than what immediately follows. This is of the greatest service to those who do not concern themselves with the bibliographical minutiae and collation. It may chance that search is made for a special work, for books printed at a certain place or by some individual printer, or even it may be of 15th century books of a particular date. In any one or all of these cases the statement of the information alluded

to in a clear and concise form is an unmistakable advantage. When the place, printer's name, and date (or any one of these facts) are not stated in the work, that information is enclosed within square brackets with a mark of interrogation in front of what is uncertain. It will be observed that the date is reduced from the Roman to the modern reckoning.

"2. The format is stated according to the folding of the paper as ascertained by the water-marks and wire-lines. The size in inches which follows indicates the height of the book, and serves as a guide when searching for the work on the shelves.

"3. The particulars which follow are: the type, presence or absence of printed signatures, numeration and catchwords, and finally the number of lines to a solid page of type. It is advisable to invariably maintain the same order for these items.

"4. The collation is stated by enumerating the quires a b c, etc., whether there are printed signatures or not. Books always had signatures. Manuscript signatures are found in many 15th century books, but unfortunately the binder's knife has often cut them away, as they were usually written near the bottom corner of the first page of each quire or gathering, and not in a line immediately beneath the page of type, as in the case of printed signatures. The "superior" figures following the signature letters indicate the number of leaves to each quire. A short sum in simple addition, or better still a reference to a table which the student can easily construct for himself, will show the total number of leaves in each group of signatures, which are next recorded. This is followed by numbers within brackets [1-4] and [5-128], indicating that these leaves are to be referred to in the future as leaves 1 to 4 and 5 to 128. The necessity for using this formula may not be apparent at first sight. It will be at once recognized if we take a book made up of several parts, say of 50, 100, and 25 leaves each. Then the leaves of the first part are referred to as 1 to 50; the second part, as leaves 51 to 150; and the third part, as leaves 151 to 175.

"In the book described below every quire is regular; but not infrequently cancel leaves occur in 15th century books, so that a quire instead of being made up of an even number of leaves has an odd number. This I describe by Henry Bradshaw's method. 'Where, as sometimes happens, a single leaf is inserted in a quire owing to some miscalculation on the part of the printer, the leaf will be found described by the number of the preceding leaf, only with the addition of an asterisk (6\* if inserted after 6, 5\* if inserted after 5, etc.), and the first word of the inserted leaf is given, so as to enable the collator to identify it at once. Thus . . . the expression c (+ 6\* 'zenocrates') 6 means that the quire c consists of six leaves, besides (+) a leaf inserted after the sixth leaf (hence called 6\*), which inserted leaf commences with the word "zenocrates"' (H. Bradshaw's 'Collected papers,' p. 151).

"The collation is completed by printing the

title-page (if there chances to be one), the opening lines of the various parts of the book, the subscription to the dedication or preface, and the colophon. The division of lines is indicated by an upright bar ( | ), and every contraction is reproduced in its peculiar letter. I adhere strictly to the letters used by the printer, using U and V where he employs them, as the object is to represent what he has printed as nearly as possible with one font of type.

"5. It is most important that the description of the book as it came from the hands of the printer, and which Mr. Duff has called the 'general description,' should be clearly separated from what is peculiar to the copy of the book under observation and which may be designated the 'particular' description. In the latter I give such information as binding, former ownership, with a reference where possible to the number in the catalog where its sale is recorded, book-plates, autographs or inscriptions. Here, too, imperfections are noted, and any peculiarities of condition or material.

"6. The closing paragraph supplies references to bibliographies in which the work is described and needs no comment.

"Neither originality nor striking ingenuity is claimed for this method of cataloging 15th century books. Any value it possesses is on account of its simplicity and the sheer impossibility of mistaking one book for another when so described. It is plain, and does not bristle with enigmatical single letters, each one of which implies a word, but which can sometimes be differently interpreted. It is sufficient, for it has been well tested and has stood the trial to my entire satisfaction."

#### LIBRARIES OF GREECE.

*From Report of the U. S. Commissioner of Education, 1896-97.*

THE library of the university [of Athens] has been created from gifts in money and in books from private individuals. It has been of no considerable expense to state or to university, and yet it is an excellent one, although not up to requirements in every respect.

Among the first books received for the university library was a gift of 52 volumes sent by Governor Winthrop, of Massachusetts, in 1837. The first professors gave from their private libraries whatever they could spare. Among the benefactors the Greeks of foreign lands were, as usual, conspicuous. Among them was Demetrios Galanos, one of the earliest Sanskrit scholars in Europe. After living and studying a long time in Calcutta and Benares he came to Athens, where he died in 1833, leaving 36,000 drachmas to the university and his books to the library. A number of manuscripts of translations which he made from the Sanskrit are still in the library. Some of them were published by G. K. Typaldos, the first ephor of the university library.

Since the completion of the new buildings of the new university up to the present time, the library has been housed on the second floor of the main building, where it was naturally

cramped for want of room. This fact gave opportunity to two rich brothers, natives of Zakynthos, who had amassed fortunes abroad, to benefit their fatherland by presenting it with a magnificent building to be used exclusively as a library. This splendid structure has been lately completed. It is in marble and of Doric style. It occupies and fills the square north of the university. From the name of the donors the library is called the Ballianeion.

The library is rich not only in old printed editions, especially of Greek works—*editiones principes*, and other rare editions—but possesses a large number of manuscripts. They are chiefly ecclesiastical or chronological works, and date from the 15th century down. They have been carefully examined by others, but especially by Mr. Sakkellion, who was an excellent palæographer. He died a few years ago. He published a number of smaller manuscripts, and made quite a complete catalog of them all.

There is no printed catalog of all the departments of the library, but the making of such a catalog has been in hand for a number of years, under the direction of Dr. Michael Deffner, assistant librarian. The theological, philosophical, and philological portions of the catalog have been published.

In many monasteries of Greece there once existed small libraries containing interesting old manuscripts. Most of what was valuable in these libraries, however, has been brought to Athens, especially to the university library, if not smuggled off to Europe. But in spite of this double and partly excusable despoliation, the monastery libraries contain even yet many a treasure.

Besides the university library there are other large collections of books at different places throughout the kingdom. In Athens itself is the library of the Boulé, second in importance only to that of the university.

An interesting library is in Demitsana, a small town situated in the mountains a few miles east of Olympia. This library belonged to the famous school which Aagaplos remodelled in 1764. Many of the books were destroyed during the war. The wild Arkadians and Maniotes used them for making gun wads. Others of the more valuable works are now in Athens. But still the library is important. It is kept in the Hellenic school building. Evthymios Kastorches, professor of Latin at the university, wrote an interesting monograph on this library.

In Andritsana, a small town in the northern part of Messenia, is another noteworthy collection of books. It was a gift to the town by Agathophron Nikolopoulos, a native of Andritsana, who, before the war of liberation, travelled through different countries of the Levant, and having a great love for books, turned whatever money he made into the purchase of them. After Greece became free he gave them to his townsmen. It consists of about 20,000 volumes. Unfortunately, the books are not arranged and are not in the care of a librarian, but are stored up and are almost inaccessible.



## CATHOLIC LITERATURE FOR LIBRARIES.

THE following list of books for Catholics has been prepared by Rev. J. H. McMahon, of the Cathedral Library, New York City, for the guidance of librarians in selecting Catholic literature. Father McMahon says: "The books written by Catholics and for Catholics receive such inadequate treatment in the lists prepared for public libraries, that it is an impossibility for librarians to be guided in the selection of their books by such compilations. In the accompanying list of books published within the last four years, 1893-97, the overwhelming majority are not mentioned in any list or even any bibliographical periodical that has come under my notice. I am sure that many of your readers will be grateful for this fairly complete list of Catholic publications."

- ALLIES, Mary H. Pius the Seventh, 1800-1823. N. Y., Benziger, 1897. \$1.50
- ALLIES, T. W. Formation of Christendom: I. Christian faith and the individual; II. Christian faith and society; III. Christian faith and philosophy. N. Y., Benziger, 1897. ea. 1.35
- Monastic life, from the Fathers of the Desert to Charlemagne. Lond., Kegan Paul, 1896. 3.50
- ARNOLD, T. Notes on the sacrifice of the altar. N. Y., Benziger, 1897. 50
- AVIS, Whyte. The Catholic girl in the world. N. Y., Benziger, 1894. 1.00
- AZARIAS, Brother. Essays educational; Essays philosophical; Essays miscellaneous. Chicago, McBride, 1896. ea. 1.50
- BAART, Rev. P. A., S.T.L. The Roman court. N. Y., Pustet, 1895. 1.25
- BENARD, St. Life and works. 4 v. Lond., Hodges, 1897. ea. 3.00
- BISHOP, Mary C. Memoir of Mrs. Augustus Craven. Lond., Bentley, 1895. 5.00
- BISHOP, M. C. Prison life of Marie Antoinette and her children. Lond., Kegan Paul, 1894. 1.75
- BONESTELL, Mary G. Army boys and girls. Balt., Murphy, 1895. 1.00
- BOUGAUD, Mgr. St. Chantal and the foundation of the Visitation. 2 v. N. Y., Benziger, 1895. 4.00
- BRACKEL, F. v. Circus rider's daughter. N. Y., Benziger, 1896. 1.25
- BREEN, A. E. Introduction to Holy Scripture. Rochester, N. Y., Author, 1897. 4.00
- BROTHERS of the Christian Schools. English literature. N. Y., O'Shea, 1896. 1.25
- BRUNEAU, Rev. Jos., S.S. Harmony of the Gospels. N. Y., Cath. Lib. Assoc., 1897. 75
- BUGG, Lelia H. Orchids. St. Louis, Herder, 1894. 1.50
- BURKE, Rev. J. J. Reasonableness of the Catholic ceremonies and practices. N. Y., Benziger, 1894. 25
- CAPECIATRO, Card. Life of St. Philip Neri. 2 v. N. Y., Benziger, 1894. 3.25
- CARE, Most Rev. Ja. Primacy of the Roman Pontiff. N. Y., Benziger, 1897. 50
- CHATAUD, Right Rev. F., D.D. Occasional essays. N. Y., Cath. School Book Co., 1894. 1.25
- CLARE, Fr., S.J. Science of spiritual life according to exercises of St. Ignatius. Lond., Art & Book Co., 1896. 1.60
- CLARE, Richard H. Old and new lights on Columbus. N. Y., Author, 1894. 3.00
- CONWAY, Rev. J. J., S.J. Fundamental principles of Christian ethics. Chicago, McBride, 1896. 50
- CONWAY, Katherine E. Questions of honor in the Christian life. Bost., Pilot Pub. Co., 1896. 50
- Making friends and keeping them; A lady and her letters. Bost., Pilot Pub. Co., 1895. ea. 50
- CORPUS, Rev. Chas., S.J. Brief text-book of moral philosophy. N. Y., Cath. School Book Co., 1895. 1.00
- Moral principles and medical practice. N. Y., Benziger, 1897. 1.50
- DAMLEIGH, Madeleine Vinton. The secret directory. Phila., Kilner, 1896. 75
- DESMOND, H. J. Mooted questions of history. N. Y., Benziger, 1895. 75
- DEVINE, Rev. A., C.P. Convent life. N. Y., Benziger, 1897. 1.50
- DEVINE, Rev. A., C.P. Commandments explained. N. Y., Benziger, 1897. \$1.60
- DIDON, Rev. C. F. Belief in the divinity of Jesus Christ. Lond., Kegan Paul, 1894. 1.25
- DRANE, Augusta T. Spirit of the Dominican order. N. Y., Benziger, 1896. 1.00
- EYRE, Rev. W. H., S.J. Pope and the people. Lond., Art & Book Co., 1895. 70
- FENELON, Archbishop. Three dialogues on pulpit eloquence. Lond., Baker, 1896. 1.00
- FITZGERALD, Percy. Jewels of the Imitation. N. Y., Benziger, 1896. 60
- World's own book. N. Y., Benziger, 1895. 3.00
- FOUARD, Abbt. St. Paul and his missions. N. Y., Longmans, 1894. 2.00
- GERARD, Fr. John, S.J. What was Gunpowder Plot? Lond., Osgood, 1896. 2.25
- Gunpowder Plot and the Gunpowder Plot-ter. Pamphlet. Harper, 1897. 40
- GIBBONS, Cardinal Ja. Ambassador of Christ. Balt., Murphy, 1896. 1.00
- GIGOT, Rev. F. E., S.S. Outlines of Jewish history. N. Y., Benziger, 1897. 1.50
- GILLOW, Joseph. Literary and biographical history. Vol. IV. N. Y., Benziger, 1895. 5.00
- GOLDIE, Rev. F., S.J. First Christian mission to the Great Mogul. Dublin, Gill & Sons, 1897. 1.35
- HEFLE, Bishop. History of the councils of the church. Vol. v., 666-787. N. Y., Scribner, 1896. 4.50
- HEUSER, Rev. Herman J. Chapters of Bible study. N. Y., Cath. Lib. Assoc., 1895. 1.00
- HEWIT, Rev. A. F. Teaching of St. John. N. Y., Cath. Book Ex., 1895. 1.00
- HOPE, Mrs. First divorce of Henry VIII. Lond., Kegan Paul, 1894. 1.75
- HULST, Mgr. D. A royal and Christian soul: sketch of the life and death of the Comte de Paris. 1895. 55
- HUMPHREY, Father, S.J. Elements of religious life. Lond., Art & Book Co., 1895. 1.50
- Conscience and law; or, principles of human conduct. Lond., Baker, 1896. 1.60
- His Divine Majesty. Lond., Baker, 1897. 2.50
- The Sacred Scriptures. N. Y., Benziger, 1894. 1.50
- HUNTER, Rev. Sylvester J., S.J. Outlines of dogmatic theology. 3 v. N. Y., Benziger, 1896. 1.50
- IRELAND, Most Rev. John D. Church and modern society. Chicago, McBride, 1896. 1.50
- JANSSEN, J. History of the German people at the close of the Middle Ages. 2 v. Lond., Kegan Paul, 1896. 6.25
- JOHN, Rev. L., S.J. Logic and metaphysics. Fordham, St. John's Coll., 1896. 1.00
- KNEIPP, Rev. Sebastian. My will: a legacy to the healthy and to the sick. N. Y., Schaefer, 1896. 1.50
- My water cure. N. Y., Schaefer, 1894. 1.50
- Thus shalt thou live. N. Y., Schaefer, 1894. 1.50
- LAMBING, Rev. A. A., LL.D. Sacramentals of the Holy Catholic Church. N. Y., Benziger, 1895. 50
- LAMOTHE, A. de. Outlaws of Camargue. N. Y., Benziger, 1896. 1.25
- LANSLOTS, Rev. W. J., O.S.B. Explanation of the prayers and ceremonies of the Mass; II. N. Y., Benziger, 1897. 1.25
- LAPIDÉ, Cornelius A. Great commentary on the Holy Scripture. 8 v. Lond., Hodges, 1897. per vol. 3.00
- LECKY, Walter. Mr. Billy Buttons. N. Y., Benziger, 1896. 1.25
- LE COURTIER, Mgr. Thoughts and counsels for women of the world. 1895. 1.25
- LE MONNIER, Abbt. History of St. Francis Assisi. London, Kegan Paul, 1894. 4.25
- LEPICIER, Rev. A. M., D.D. Indulgences: their origin and nature. Lond., Kegan Paul, 1895. 3.00
- LEVESQUE, Rev. F. E., S.J. Nature of biblical inspiration. N. Y., Cath. Lib. Assoc., 1896. 25
- LILLY, W. S. Claims of Christianity. N. Y., Appleton, 1894. 3.50
- Essays and speeches. Lond., Chapman & Hall, 1897. 4.80
- LUCAS, Rev. Geo. J. Agnosticism and religion. Balt., Murphy, 1895. 1.25
- MAAS, Rev. A. J. Christ in type and prophecy. 2 v. N. Y., Benziger, 1895. 4.00
- MACDEVITT, Rev. John, D.D. Introduction to the Sacred Scripture. N. Y., Benziger, 1895. 1.50
- MACRORY, Rev. Joseph, D.D. Gospel of St. John. Dublin, Brown & Nolan, 1897. 2.00
- MANNING, Anne. Household of Sir Thomas More. N. Y., Scribner, 1895. New ed. 2.25
- MARIE, Josephine. Love stronger than death. N. Y., Cath. Lib. Assoc., 1896. 50

Current events give occasion for picture bulletins. The recent war with Spain, and scenes illustrating life in our new possessions, have called attention to many books that otherwise might have lain neglected.

Nature study and books relating thereto can be much stimulated by these bulletins. At our Fifth street branch the assistants mounted all the pictures contained in the magazine *Birds* and pinned them on the wall, giving under each picture a brief description. All the books on nature study were grouped together, and as a result of this combination a demand for this class of books was greatly increased.

The little thus far done is but a suggestion of what may be done with more time and larger means, but it also shows how much can be accomplished with even limited resources.

Teachers in neighboring schools, recognizing the educational value of these bulletins, have requested a loan of our bulletins, and if, by these means, the utilization of odd numbers of illustrated papers and magazines is furthered, great good would be accomplished. A scrap-book made up of selections of pictures from these sources is a most valuable addition to the children's room of any library.

The effectiveness of the library is in proportion to the knowledge of the people of its contents, and this knowledge can be greatly increased by the open shelf and the picture bulletin.

#### THE PAWTUCKET PUBLIC LIBRARY BUILDING.

It was about a year ago — on June 8, 1898 — that the Hon. Frederic Clark Sayles, of Pawtucket, offered to give to the city of Pawtucket a public library building, to be erected as a memorial to his wife. The offer was made without conditions; it included the gift of land as well as the offer of a building; and it was the sole purpose of the donor to erect a building that the city might be proud of, and that should be a worthy memorial.

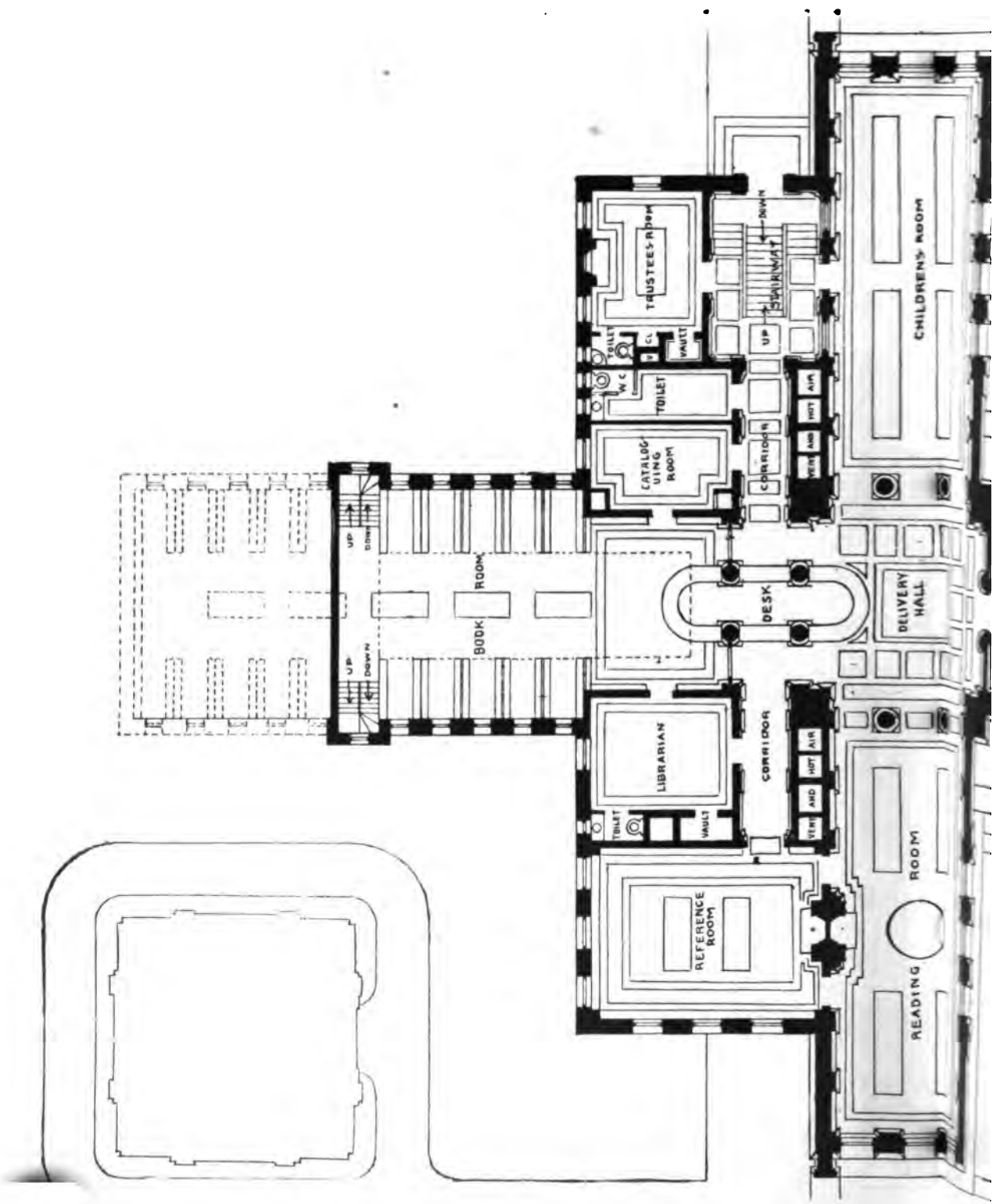
The gift was accepted on behalf of the city in the spirit of the giver, and a site was soon secured, which measured 171 feet front and 162 feet deep, comprising about 25,729 square feet, centrally located and thoroughly desirable.

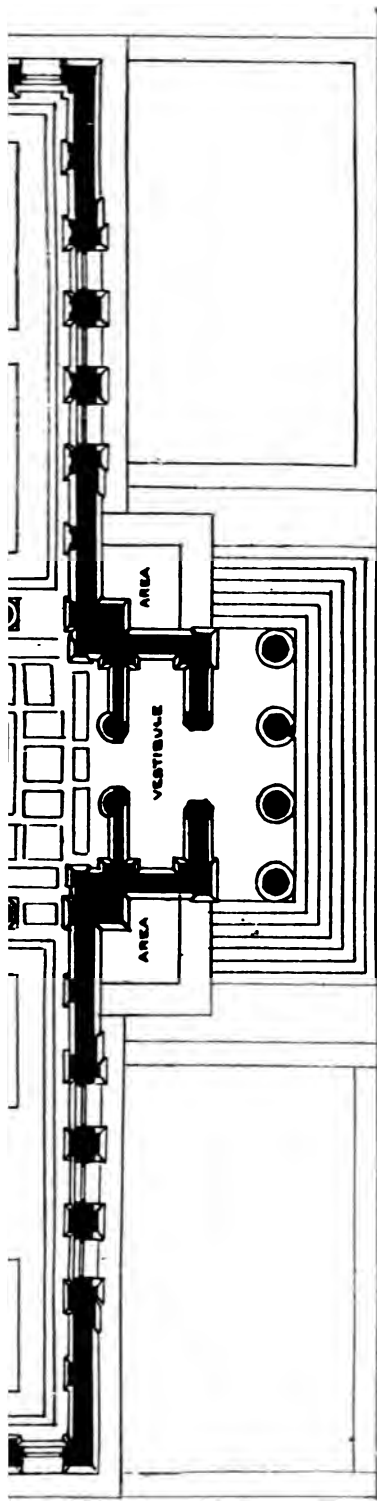
With *carte blanche* from the city authorities to follow his own ideas as to the memorial, and with a desire to obtain a building that should be a model of its kind, Mr. Sayles placed the preliminary arrangements in charge of F. F. Tingley, of Providence; who has had the entire charge of the work. Mr. Tingley called into consultation Mr. Foster, librarian of the Providence Public Library, Mr. Soule, of the Brookline Public Library, and Mrs. Minerva A. Sanders, librarian of the Pawtucket Public Library. After a careful consideration of all the factors involved, it was decided to submit to Mr. Sayles a proposition for an "open-shelf" library building, with space for approximately 50,000 to 75,000 volumes. This proposition was promptly accepted. On Mr. Sayles' departure for Europe Mr. Tingley was empowered to proceed with

the plans, and soon after Mr. Sayles' return the various designs submitted were considered and final choice was made. The plans were secured in open competition, to which 15 architects contributed. The competing architects were all given general instructions as to the style, capacity, arrangement, and cost of the proposed library, and eight plans were called for in each set submitted, including a perspective of the building. Preference for the Ionic style of architecture was suggested. The requirements were: Capacity for 50,000 volumes (there are about 17,000 in the present library) and 10,000 pamphlets, with provisions for enlargement of the building to permit an increase to 75,000 volumes and 25,000 pamphlets; piping and wiring, for both gas and electric lighting, throughout; hot air heating, with best method of ventilation, giving special consideration to the exclusion of dust as well as impure air from the book-room; separate boiler-house; fireproof construction; the portion of the building exposed to view from Summer street to be white granite or marble, the remainder of light-colored brick; the "open-shelf" system, affording free access to those using the library to all parts of the stack, to be adopted. It was agreed by the library authorities that the "open-shelf" system was the coming feature in public library construction, and that its adoption was contributive, in a great measure, to the popularity and widespread usefulness of such an institution. To the Pawtucket Public Library is given the honor of inaugurating the "open-shelf system" in public libraries, and the library is a well-known example of its practical value.

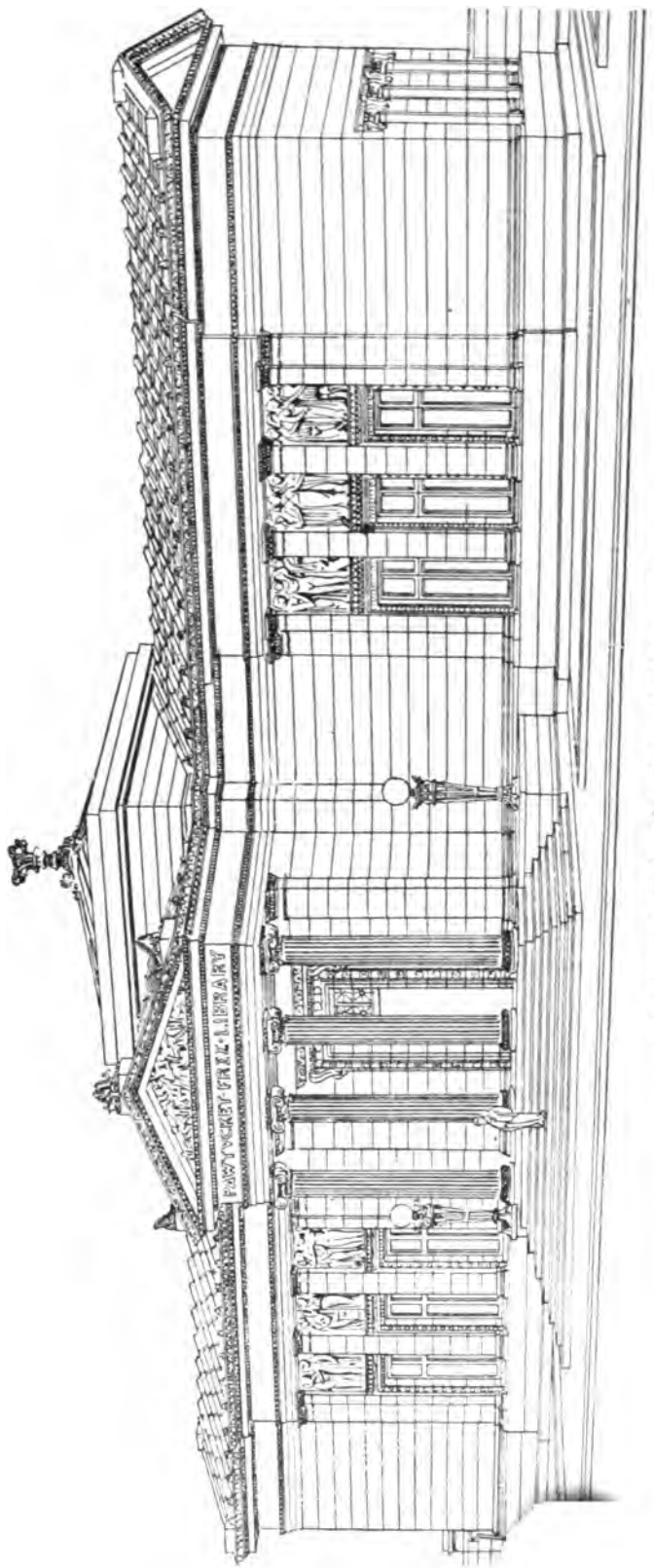
The plan chosen was that submitted by Cram, Goodhue & Ferguson, of Boston, the designs of Cabot, Everett & Mead, York & Sawyer, and Martin & Hall receiving premiums and special mention. As the accompanying designs show, the accepted plans call for a building in simple Ionic style, with little modification or elaboration. It should be noted that the plan as shown does not indicate the adoption of the "open-shelf" feature. It will, however, be so modified as to provide for this, the present intention being to include the space marked by the dotted lines and originally meant for future extension. This will give a large one-storied book-room, finished to the roof, and lighted both from above the book cases on the sides and from the roof. Final details of the design are now being worked out, and it is thought that ground may be broken for the building early next spring. The approximate area of the principal rooms of the building are given as follows: Book-room, 2000 square feet; principal reading-room, 1100 to 1200 square feet; children's reading-room, 1100 to 1200 square feet; periodical-room 900 to 1200 square feet; entrance and waiting hall, 750 square feet; reference library-room, 400 to 500 square feet; catalog-room, 200 square feet; two study-rooms, 200 square feet each; librarian's room, with vault, and toilet-room, 250 square feet; and trustee's room, with vault and toilet-room, 250 square feet.



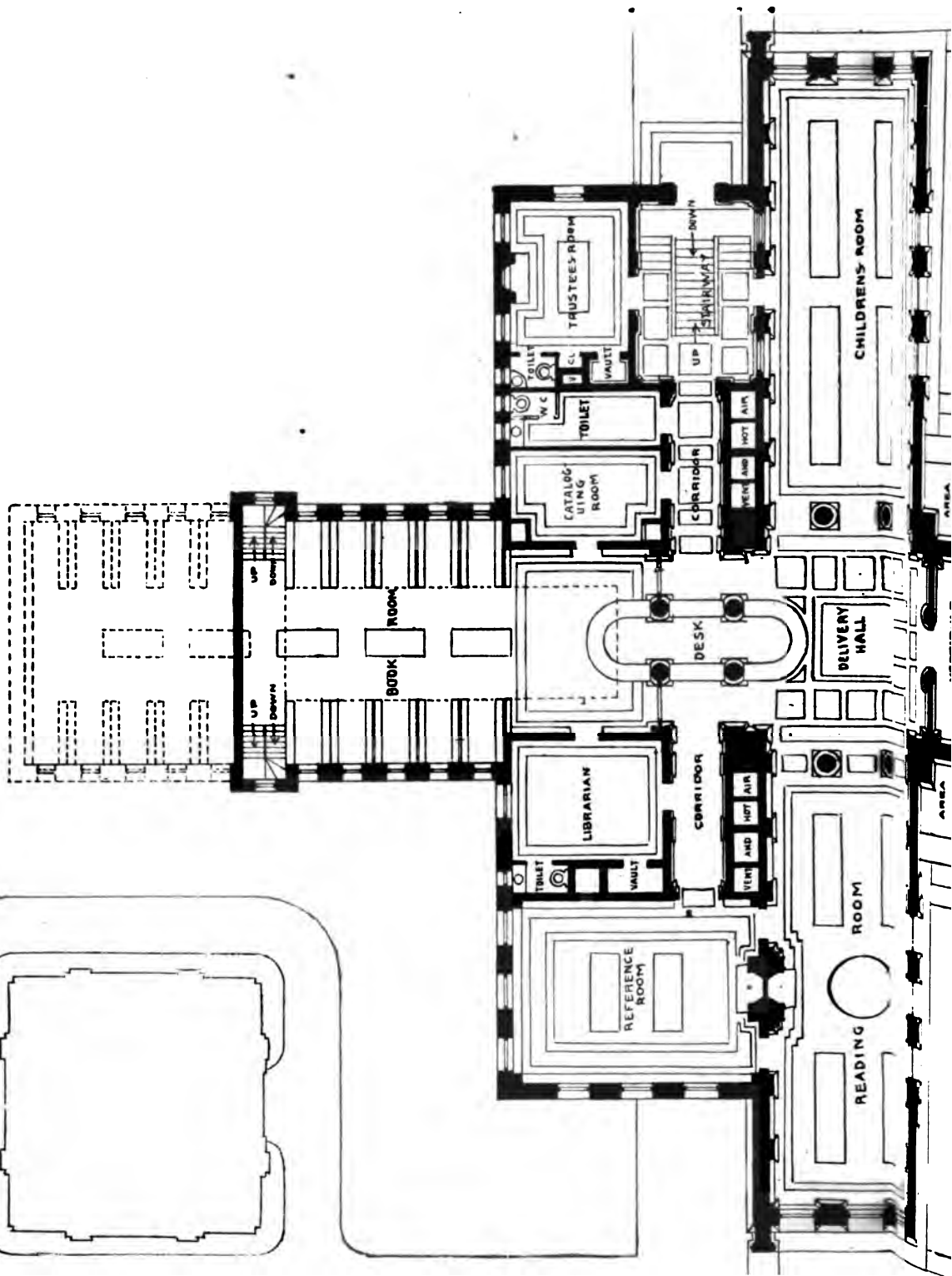
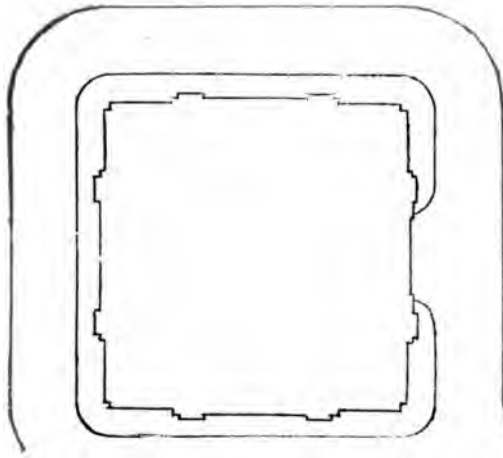




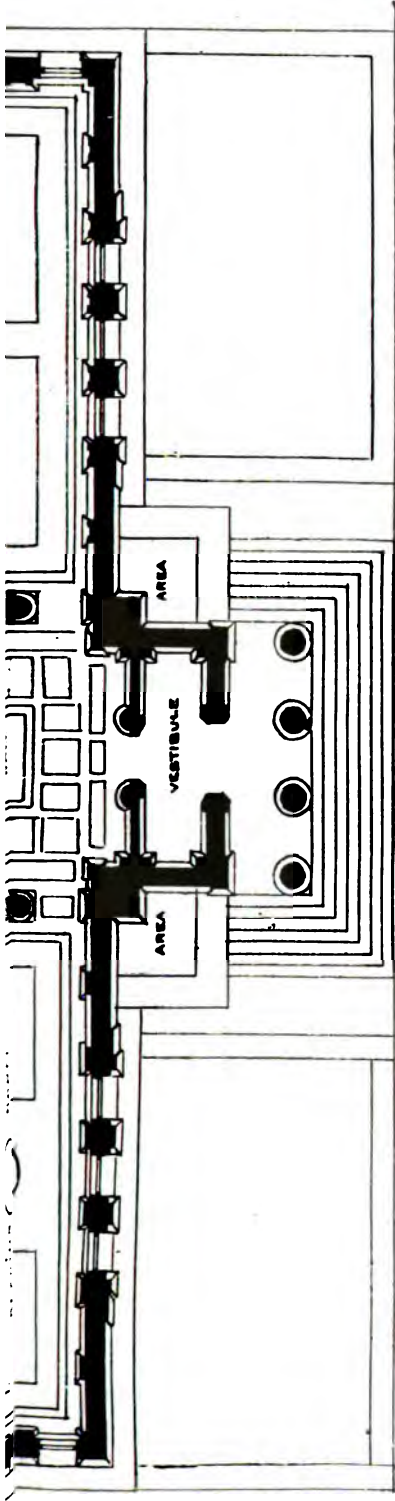
GROUND FLOOR PLAN, PAWTUCKET PUBLIC LIBRARY BUILDING.



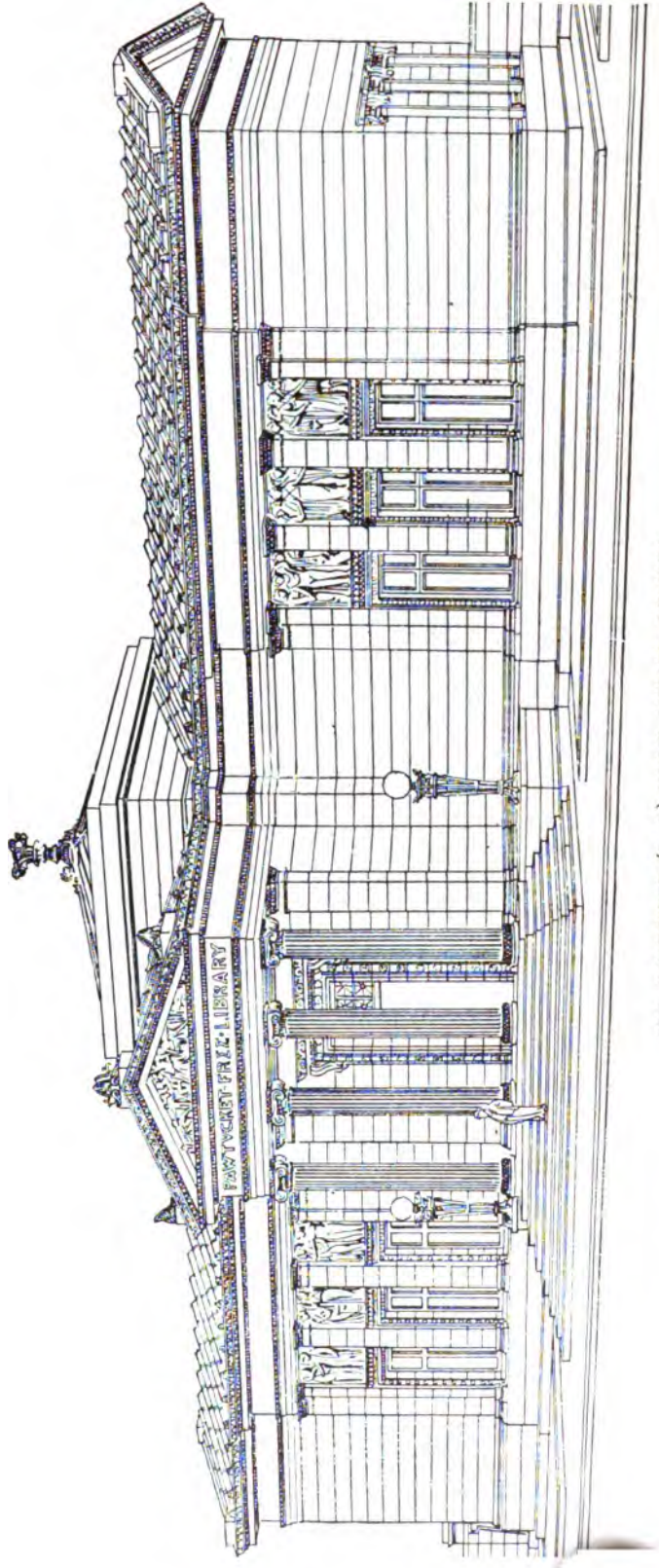
THE PAWTUCKET (R. I.) PUBLIC LIBRARY BUILDING.







GROUND FLOOR PLAN, PAWTUCKET PUBLIC LIBRARY BUILDING.



THE PAWTUCKET (R. I.) PUBLIC LIBRARY BUILDING.





# THE A. L. A. CONFERENCE AS A VITALIZING FORCE.

*From the Toledo (O.) Blade, May 20.*

THAT Toledo's Public Library board was represented by four of the eight trustees at the annual meeting of the National Librarians' Association at Atlanta caused no end of comment among the librarians in attendance, and everybody said that Toledo must be keenly alive to the benefits of library work and thoroughly appreciative of the responsibilities of the trustees.

As a matter of fact the Toledo trustees had but little to say on either of these propositions, for before the meeting was half over they realized that not only was Toledo not making the most of the public library, but that the trustees and those charged with the administration of its affairs have not yet kept pace with the great library movement that is sweeping over the entire country, making its influence potentially felt in every walk of life.

The four Toledo trustees found that our public library lacks almost all of the modern methods of getting the books off the shelves into the hands of the people. They found that — compared with other cities of the same or smaller size — Toledo is travelling along, well content with itself, in a rut that was made a score of years ago. They discovered that Toledo is overburdened with conservatism, that she is slow to accept new and up-to-date ideas, and still slower in putting them into practical use. They have come to the conclusion that the aim of the Toledo Public Library is to accumulate books, not to circulate them among the people who pay the tax by which the library is enabled to exist.

The trustees have been doing some hard thinking since the Atlanta meeting. One of the conclusions arrived at is that they are false to the trust imposed upon them by the people so long as they do not expend the people's money in a way that will produce the best possible results. The Atlanta meeting taught them that they are not doing this, and now they will be doubly culpable if, after finding that they are not accomplishing all that they might, they permit things to go along in the same old way.

While the money set aside for library purposes is totally inadequate to the needs of the work, if it is to be carried on in its fullest and broadest way, the trustees have decided that there is plenty of room for improvement in innumerable little things, inexpensive in themselves, but of great benefit in giving better service to the citizens of Toledo.

They have decided to popularize the library; to do away with the atmosphere that repels instead of inviting people. They want to have it understood that the library does not belong to those who are operating it, but that it is for the people and all the people. They will impress it upon the minds of every one connected with the administration that extra pains must be taken to induce the citizens of Toledo to avail themselves of the privilege of using the best selected collection of books of its size in the state of Ohio.

It seems strange that it should be necessary to do all this. But the trustees are now confronted by a condition that must be met. They cannot stand idly by and permit themselves to be taken to task for the non-fulfilment of their duties. They see that they have been negligent, through ignorance, for many years; and now that they are fully awake to the necessities of the case, now that they realize the possibilities, they have determined to at once begin a vigorous policy that shall place the Toledo Public Library on as high a plane as any in the state.

## THE LIBRARY OF THE UNIVERSITY OF VIENNA.\*

ORIGINALLY each faculty in the University of Vienna, had its own collection of books, but in 1545, after Bishop Faber bequeathed his library to the university, they were all united. For a long time the library was in a wretched condition, and having no building, the books were ceded to the Royal Library in 1756. At that time the collection numbered 2780 vols. and 1037 mss.

The present university library was founded in 1775 by Queen Maria Theresa, by uniting the collections of five Jesuit colleges and the duplicates of the Royal Library. This gave a collection of 45,000 vols. which was opened in 1777. Several collections were added; the reading-room, in 1824, had 90 seats, and was open daily (except Sunday, Saturday, and holy days) from 10 to 12 a.m. and 2 to 4 p.m. The staff consisted of a chief librarian, four custodians and two servants, two of the custodians being ecclesiastics and two seculars.

The catalogs embraced (1) an alphabetical catalog of books from 1775 to 1810, in 12 vols., divided into faculties; (2) a systematic catalog, 1810-28, in 13 folio vols.; (3) an alphabetical catalog, 1810-50, in 13 vols.; (4) a systematic catalog, 1828-50, in 22 vols. The attendance was always large; between 1835-48 it averaged 51,800 per annum. Professors alone, however, had the right to take out books. In 1815-16 three lists of books prohibited to readers were made, for Italian, French, and German literature. Political events in 1848 were disastrous to the welfare of the library. In that year the National Guard took possession of the building and barricaded the windows with books. Greater freedom in loaning books was introduced immediately afterwards, and gradually hours of keeping open were lengthened. After completion of the new university building in 1884 the 300,000 vols. were removed to it, and a liberal policy pursued, which included opening the rooms in the evenings. In 1897 the income of the library was 35,000 florins, and it contained 522,000 vols., which included 655 mss. and 419 incunabula. The actual increase for the year 1897 was 16,920 vols.; in the same year the reading-room was visited by 194,000 readers, this library being the most largely attended of all the libraries in Austria.

H. C. B.

\* Geschichte der Wiener Universitt, 1848-1898. Wien, 1898. 4°.

### American Library Association.

*President:* R. G. Thwaites, State Historical Society, Madison, Wis.  
*Secretary:* Henry J. Carr, Public Library, Scranton, Pa.  
*Treasurer:* Gardner M. Jones, Public Library, Salem, Mass.

### State Library Commissions.

CONNECTICUT F. P. L. COMMITTEE: Caroline M. Hewins, secretary, Public Library, Hartford, Ct.

GEORGIA LIBRARY COMMISSION: Miss Anne Wallace, secretary, Carnegie Library, Atlanta, Ga.

INDIANA STATE LIBRARY COMMISSION: W. E. Henry, secretary, State Library, Indianapolis.

MASSACHUSETTS STATE L. COMMISSION: Miss E. P. Sohler, secretary, Beverly.

NEW HAMPSHIRE STATE L. COMMISSION: J. H. Whittler, secretary, East Rochester.

NEW YORK: Public Libraries Division, State University, Melvil Dewey, director, Albany.

OHIO STATE L. COMMISSION: C. B. Galbreath, secretary, State Library, Columbus.

VERMONT LIBRARY COMMISSION: Miss M. L. Titcomb, secretary, Goodrich Memorial Library, Newport.

WISCONSIN F. L. COMMISSION: F. A. Hutchins, secretary, Madison; Miss L. E. Stearns, librarian, Milwaukee.

### State Library Associations.

#### CALIFORNIA LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.

*President:* F. J. Teggart, Mechanics' Institute Library, San Francisco.

*Secretary:* R. E. Cowan, 829 Mission Street, San Francisco.

*Treasurer:* Miss Emily I. Wade, Public Library, San Francisco.

#### COLORADO LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.

*President:* A. E. Whkaker, State University Library, Boulder.

*Secretary:* Herbert E. Richie, City Library, Denver.

*Treasurer:* J. W. Chapman, McClelland Library, Pueblo.

#### CONNECTICUT LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.

*President:* W. J. James, Wesleyan University Library, Middletown.

*Secretary:* Miss J. S. Heydrick, Pequot Library, Southport.

*Treasurer:* Miss Alice T. Cummings, Public Library, Hartford.

A meeting of the Connecticut Library Association will be held at Lyme, Ct., on Friday, June 23. There will be two sessions, and the program includes papers by Dr. E. C. Richardson, of Princeton, and Miss C. M. Hewins, and three-minute talks on the Atlanta Conference.

#### GEORGIA LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.

*President:* Miss Anne Wallace, Young Men's Library, Atlanta.

*Secretary-Treasurer:* C. W. Hubner, Atlanta.

#### ILLINOIS STATE LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.

*President:* E. S. Willcox, Public Library, Peoria.

*Secretary:* Miss M. E. Ahern, Public Libraries, 215 Madison St., Chicago.

*Treasurer:* Mrs. Josephine Resor, Public Library, Canton.

#### INDIANA LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.

*President:* W. E. Henry, State Library, Indianapolis.

*Secretary:* Miss Belle S. Hanna, Public Library, Greencastle.

*Treasurer:* Miss Jessie Allen, Public Library, Indianapolis.

#### IOWA STATE LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.

*President:* W. H. Johnston, Public Library, Fort Dodge.

*Secretary and Treasurer:* Miss Ella McLoney, Public Library, Des Moines.

#### MAINE LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.

*President:* E. W. Hall, Colby University, Waterville.

*Treasurer:* Prof. G. T. Little, Bowdoin College, Brunswick.

#### MASSACHUSETTS LIBRARY CLUB.

*President:* W. H. Tillinghast, Harvard University Library.

*Secretary:* H. C. Wellman, Public Library, Brookline.

*Treasurer:* Miss Margaret D. McGuffy, Public Library, Boston.

A meeting of the Massachusetts Library Club will be held at Plymouth, Monday and Tuesday, June 26 and 27. The afternoon of June 26 will be devoted to sight seeing, and the evening to a session at Kendall Hall, where the meetings will be held. On Tuesday morning there will be a trolley ride along the beach, a session following at 10:15 a.m. The program includes "The Library Art Club," by Miss Chandler; discussion of open shelves; "Bulletin boards and special lists," by C. K. Bolton; "The Atlanta Conference," by S. W. Foss; and a symposium on "Bulletin," by W. E. Foster, J. G. Moulton, and Miss C. A. Blanchard.

#### WESTERN MASSACHUSETTS LIBRARY CLUB.

*President:* C. A. Cutter, Forbes Library, Northampton.

*Secretary:* Miss Alice Shepard, City Library, Springfield.

*Treasurer:* Miss M. M. Robison, Public Library, Amherst.

## MICHIGAN LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.

*President:* H. M. Utley, Public Library, Detroit.  
*Secretary:* Mrs. A. F. McDonnell, Bay City.  
*Treasurer:* Miss Genevieve M. Walton, Normal College Library, Ypsilanti.

## MINNESOTA LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.

*President:* Dr. W. W. Folwell, State University, Minneapolis.  
*Secretary:* Miss Gratia Countryman, Public Library, Minneapolis.  
*Treasurer:* Miss Anne Hammond, Public Library, St. Paul.

## NEBRASKA LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.

*President:* W. E. Jillson, Doane College, Crete.  
*Secretary:* Miss Edith Tobitt, Public Library, Omaha.  
*Treasurer:* Miss M. A. O'Brien, Public Library, Omaha.

## NEW HAMPSHIRE LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.

*President:* A. H. Chase, Concord.  
*Secretary:* Miss Grace Blanchard, Public Library, Concord.  
*Treasurer:* Miss E. A. Pickering, Public Library, Newington.

## NEW JERSEY LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.

*President:* F. P. Hill, Free Public Library, Newark.  
*Secretary:* Miss Clara W. Hunt, Free Public Library, Newark.  
*Treasurer:* Miss Cecelia C. Lambert, Public Library, Passaic.

## NEW YORK LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.

*President:* A. L. Peck, Public Library, Gloversville.  
*Secretary:* W. R. Eastman, State Library, Albany.  
*Treasurer:* J. N. Wing, Free Circulating Library, 226 W. 42d st., New York City.

## OHIO LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.

*President:* Robinson Locke, Toledo.  
*Secretary:* Charles Orr, Case Library, Cleveland.  
*Treasurer:* Miss K. W. Sherwood, Public Library, Cincinnati.  
*Fifth annual meeting:* Toledo, O., Aug. 9 and 10, 1899.

A course of elementary lectures on library subjects has been arranged in connection with the meeting of the Ohio Library Association at Toledo. They will be under the direction of Mr. W. H. Brett, of the Cleveland Public Library. Two or more of the lectures will be included in the program of the meetings of August 9 and 10, and the remaining ones on August 11. The lectures will be as follows:  
 Introductory remarks: W. H. Brett, Cleveland Public Library.

The library field: Miss E. C. Doren, Dayton Public Library.

The library spirit: Miss L. A. Eastman, Cleveland Public Library.

Book-buying and trade bibliographies: Charles Orr, Case Library, Cleveland.

Accession, Shelf list, Classification, Cataloging: Miss Esther Crawford, Dayton Public Library; Miss A. S. Tyler, Cleveland Public Library.

Charging systems: Miss H. A. Wood, Cincinnati Public Library.

Contact with public: Miss M. G. Pierce, Cleveland Public Library.

Use of reference books: Mrs. Virginia Odor Rickey, formerly reference librarian Cleveland Public Library.

If possible, time will be allowed for the discussion of each subject. A question-box will be arranged, and all are invited to send in practical questions in advance of the meeting in order to afford time for their consideration. It is hoped that the lectures will prove of interest to library trustees all over the state as outlining some of the elementary qualifications for library work. The lectures are free and a cordial invitation is extended to all interested.

## PENNSYLVANIA LIBRARY CLUB.

*President:* Dr. E. J. Nolan, Academy of Natural Sciences, Philadelphia.  
*Secretary:* Miss Mary P. Farr, Philadelphia Normal School.  
*Treasurer:* Miss Jean E. Graffen, Free Library of Philadelphia.

The last meeting of the club before the summer recess was held on Monday, May 22, in the new lecture-room of the Free Library on Chestnut street. It was largely attended. After the formal business of the evening, the principal topic was the relation of conference experiences.

At the request of the president, Dr. Nolan (who was in the chair), Mr. Montgomery gave in detail a résumé of the Atlanta and post-conference experiences from the social side. The "perils and troubles" undergone were not omitted; but the thorough enjoyment of the expedition was enforced by the history laid before the meeting.

Mr. Thomson stated in detail the business side of the conference, especially dwelling upon the impetus given to co-operative work by the addresses which were delivered at Atlanta.

Dr. Nolan then took up the story, and with a good deal of humor and fun brought the story of barbecues, coon-dances, alternations of heat and cold, and other incidents, to a conclusion.

Five new members were elected and the meetings of the club were adjourned to the fall. It is proposed to hold the first meeting of the next season at Bryn Mawr College on the invitation of Miss Thomas, Miss Lord, and Miss Kane.

## WESTERN PENNSYLVANIA LIBRARY CLUB.

*President:* Miss Helen Sperry, Carnegie Library, Homestead.  
*Secretary-Treasurer:* Miss Mary F. Macrum, Carnegie Library, Pittsburgh.

## VERMONT LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.

*President:* Miss S. C. Hagar, Fletcher Free Library, Burlington.

*Secretary:* Miss M. L. Titcomb, Goodrich Memorial Library, Newport.

*Treasurer:* E. F. Holbrook, Proctor.

## WISCONSIN STATE LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.

*President:* Mrs. Charles S. Morris, Berlin.

*Secretary:* Miss Minnie M. Oakley, State Historical Society, Madison.

*Treasurer:* Miss Nellie C. Silverthorn, Public Library, Wausau.

## NORTH WISCONSIN TRAVELLING LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.

*President:* Mrs. E. E. Vaughn, Ashland.

*Secretary and Treasurer:* Miss Janet Green, Vaughn Library, Ashland.

## Library Clubs.

## BAY PATH LIBRARY CLUB.

*President:* Miss Helen S. Carter, Leicester, Mass.

*Secretary:* C. H. Clark, West Brookfield, Mass.

*Treasurer:* Miss Nellie A. Cutter, Spencer, Mass.

## LIBRARY CLUB OF BUFFALO.

*President:* H. L. Elmendorf, Public Library.

*Secretary-Treasurer:* Miss Elizabeth D. Renninger, Catholic Institute.

## CHICAGO LIBRARY CLUB.

*President:* C. B. Roden, Public Library, Chicago.

*Secretary:* Miss Irene Warren, Chicago Normal School.

*Treasurer:* Miss M. E. Ahern, Public Libraries, 215 Madison st., Chicago.

## NEW YORK LIBRARY CLUB.

*President:* Dr. J. S. Billings, N. Y. Public Library.

*Secretary:* Miss Pauline Leipziger, Aguilar Library.

*Treasurer:* Miss Harriet Husted, Y. W. C. A. Library.

The club's last meeting this season was called to order by President Bostwick in the University Settlement Building (cor. Rivington and Delancey streets) on May 25, at 3:50 p.m. After a few words of welcome by Miss Helen Moore, of the Settlement Library, some routine business was disposed of.

The committee charged with the matter having brought in a favorable report, a resolution was passed making membership in the club include membership in the state association, and *vice versa*. The following were elected to membership: Ja. L. Roberts, of Baker & Taylor; Messrs. George J. Coombes and H. Rosenthal, of the New York Public Library; and Miss Elizabeth Howland Wesson, of the Orange Free Library.

The result of election of officers was: President, Dr. J. S. Billings; 1st vice-president, F. B. Bigelow; 2d vice-president, J. C. Thomas; Secretary, Miss Pauline Leipziger; Treasurer, Miss Harriet Husted.

The regular program was opened by a paper by F. W. Halsey, editor of the *N. Y. Times*, *Saturday Review*, on "Librarians and literary editors—their responsibilities in a deluge," which dealt with the avalanche of printed matter, good, bad, and indifferent, now overwhelming the public, and pointed out the responsibilities resting alike upon librarians and literary editors, in their duties as selectors or critics of books, in discarding trash and in encouraging good work. Then followed short talks on "Methods for making known to the public the existence and work of a library." Miss M. E. Mills, of the Yorkville Branch, N. Y. Free Circulating, spoke of the distributing of cards informing the public that books were circulated free of charge at the branches of the Free Circulating. These were placed in halls where meetings were held, and in other places where they would reach a large number of people, as missions, schools, armories, hotels, hospitals, news-stands, street-car offices, etc., etc. Proprietors and others in authority gave assurance that it would be personally gratifying to them to have their employes use the cards. Rev. Dr. Collyer said to the speaker: "God bless you; I had to walk six miles each way for my book when I was a boy."

Miss Leipziger, of the Aguilar, described the picture bulletins in use there (*see p. 257*); and how by means of these bulletins interest is awakened in many subjects hitherto neglected. Miss A. C. Moore spoke of picture bulletins and exhibitions at the Pratt Institute. They are an important factor in making the library known, but the principle should be less to attract people to the library than to awaken and sustain a genuine interest in the subject presented. The latter must be well thought out and deserve a place on the walls. Picture exhibitions at the Pratt Institute represent "the combined results of a natural outgrowth and extension of the picture bulletins, stimulated and fostered by suggestions received from the children themselves." The development of thought and discrimination in the children is perhaps the most appreciable result of this work. "To prove the reality of the book and the universe is a mighty task for the children's library."

Misses Haines, Kelso, and Hitchler gave some amusing accounts of the social side of the Atlanta meeting, after which adjournment was taken.

## LIBRARY ASSOCIATION OF WASHINGTON CITY.

*President:* Dr. H. Carrington Bolton, Cosmos Club.

*Secretary:* W. L. Boyden, Librarian Supreme Council 33° A. A. Order of Scottish Rite.

*Treasurer:* T. L. Cole, Statute Law Book Co.

*Meetings:* Second Wednesday evening of each month.

## Library Schools and Training Classes

## ILLINOIS STATE LIBRARY SCHOOL.

NOTABLE among recent events were Mr. Dewey's talks of May 17 and 18 on "The qualifications of a librarian." These were delivered informally to the school, in connection with his visit to Champaign to address the high school conference on "Relations of the high schools to the universities." Two lectures were also given by C. W. Alvord, instructor in history and mathematics in the preparatory school, on "Books on mediæval history" and "Sources of mediæval history."

The travelling library recently sent out by the school is proving most successful, and the books meet with hearty appreciation.

## NEW YORK STATE LIBRARY SCHOOL.

## SUMMER COURSE.

THE summer course opened auspiciously Tuesday, May 23, with 20 students. The very attractive rooms on the third floor, formerly occupied by the regular school, are used as school and lecture rooms. The session is extended this year from five to six weeks, and the curriculum is strengthened in several directions. "Simplified library school rules," recently published, is of service in the instruction. Miss Mary L. Sutliff, of the class of '93, is giving a highly satisfactory course of lectures on cataloging. Three students are specializing in advanced cataloging, two in indexing, and one in reference work. Under the direction of the faculty, the school is in charge of Miss Mary Floyd Williams, of the class of '99, who was appointed in January special assistant of the vice-director, and through whose efficient aid the printed descriptions of typical loan systems (described in L. J., April, '99, p. 165), were made possible. The summer students have had the advantage of hearing the lectures by Mr. Hutchins, Mr. Thwaites, and Miss Hewins, described below.

## List of Students.

Biddle, Harriet, Cambridge, Mass. B.A. Boston University, 1882; Assistant Boston Society of Natural History.  
Boardman, Esther Elizabeth, Hudson, N. Y. Librarian Hudson Free Library.  
Brower, Jane, Albany, N. Y. Librarian Albany Free Library.  
Candage, Phebe Teresa, Brookline, Mass. Assistant Brookline Public Library.  
Carpenter, Florence Russell, New York. Librarian Union Settlement, N. Y.  
Fitzgerald, Eva Mary, Indianapolis, Ind. Ex-assistant Indiana State Library.  
Girton, Jennie, Waterloo, Ia. Assistant Waterloo Free Public Library.  
Hartmann, Lilla Henrietta, Cincinnati, O. B. L. University of Cincinnati, 1897; Assistant University of Cincinnati Library.  
Johnson, Kate Peninnah, Chicago, Ill. Assistant John Crerar Library, Chicago.

Lounsbury, Henrietta, Poughkeepsie, N. Y. Librarian State Hospital, Poughkeepsie.  
McGahan, Julia Frances, Troy, N. Y. Librarian Troy High School.  
Martin, Mary Parthenia, Canton, O. Librarian Canton Public Library Association.  
Mercer, Martha, Mansfield, O. Librarian Mansfield Memorial Library Association.  
Merchant, Rena, Saratoga Springs, N. Y. Librarian Saratoga Springs Public Library.  
Meyer, Alda Elizabeth, Erie, Pa. Assistant Erie Public Library.  
Nelson, Peter, Schenectady, N. Y. B.A. Union College, 1898; Acting librarian Union College Library.  
Skinner, Elizabeth M., Bay Ridge, N. Y. Assistant Bay Ridge Public Library.  
Torrey, Clarence Almon, Chicago, Ill. Ph.B. Cornell College, Ia., 1890; University of Chicago, 1892-93; Inspector Departmental Libraries, University of Chicago.  
Van O'Linda, Mary Guest, Watervliet, N. Y. Yust, William Frederick, Chicago, Ill. B.A. Central Wesleyan College, Warrenton, Mo., 1893, M.A., 1898; University of Chicago, 1894-99; Assistant University of Chicago Library.

## VISITS FROM LIBRARIANS.

The visits of outside librarians have this year been of unusual interest and value. Mr. Gardner M. Jones, librarian of the Salem Public Library (N. Y. State Library School, class of 1889), spoke to us April 20 and 21 on "The relation of the librarian to his trustees and assistants" and "Things I might have done differently." Apropos of our discussion of the *Ladies' Home Journal* (See L. J., Feb., '99, p. 71), Mr. Jones told us that the publishers will send the *Ladies' Home Journal* free to any public library requesting it.

Mr. Frank A. Hutchins, secretary of the Wisconsin Free Library Commission, filled the alumni lectureship, giving four lectures May 26 and 27. He traced carefully conditions which affect library interests in Wisconsin from the earliest history of the state, and advocated the principle that a city library should be a centre of enthusiasm, instruction, and practical aid for its own county or township. One of the senior class said to me after the course, "No other lecturer before the school has been to me such a source of inspiration to the highest ideals as Mr. Hutchins."

May 29 we enjoyed an energetic plea for the gathering of local history material by public libraries made by Mr. Reuben G. Thwaites, secretary of the Wisconsin State Historical Society and president of the American Library Association.

A peculiar pleasure always attaches to Miss Hewins' biennial visits to the school. She spoke to us May 31 and June 1 on "Evolution of children's books," "Principles of selection of books for children," "What libraries are doing for children," and "Books that children like best" illustrated by their own letters.

A school year unusually successful in sub-

stantial work accomplished and important developments along new lines will close Friday, June 23. SALOME CUTLER FAIRCHILD.

#### REPORT OF LIBRARY SCHOOL, 1898.

The University of the State of New York has issued the 12th annual report of the library school (being State library bulletin, library school no. 3, April, 1899), for the year ending Sept. 30, 1898. Much of the information presented has already been given in Mrs. Fairchild's monthly letters to the JOURNAL, but the report is an excellent compact statement of the methods and results of a twelvemonth's useful work.

#### Reviews.

CARDIFF (*Wales*) FREE LIBRARIES. Catalogue of printed literature in the Welsh Department; by John Ballinger and James Ifano Jones. [Motto] "Ai bydd Doeth ni Ddarlleno." Cardiff, Free Libraries Committee; London, Sotheran & Co., 1898. 560 p. l. O. 12s. 6d. net.

During the past few years more than ordinary attention has been paid to the formation of Welsh libraries in Wales. Swansea, with its public library and Royal Institution, has good libraries. The university colleges of Aberystwyth, Bangor, and Cardiff have fairly good libraries. The Cardiff College was fortunate in securing the Salisbury collection formed by E. G. Salisbury, of Chester, whose collection of books on Wales and the border countries was the most noted in Wales. The Cymmrodorian Society of London have a good library. The cathedrals of Wales have fairly good collections; and the same can be said of the denominational colleges of Wales, particularly so of the library of the Calvinistic Methodist College at Bala. Many good private libraries pertaining to Wales exist in the hands of individual collectors.

Of public libraries in Wales a few have fair collections, particularly so the Cardiff Free Libraries, whose catalog of their Welsh library has been issued in a large octavo volume of 560 pages. This catalog contains some 4000 works, the greater portion of which are in the Welsh language, and mostly on works of theology, which subject is by far in the majority of the issues of the Welsh press in Wales. The forming of the Welsh library of the Cardiff Free Libraries has taken 10 years' time. The library committee number some 20 persons, of whom the majority are aldermen and councilmen of Cardiff, South Wales. This work was well advertised before its publication, and there was an edition of 2500 copies printed, something unusual in the preparation of a catalog of a free library on any special subject, and particularly so in the case of a catalog the total issue of which is well-nigh equal to the books it enumerates.

The arrangement of the catalog is all that can be desired by subject and author, and it is

very easy to find what one is in search for. The library does not contain many rarities in Welsh history. It is simply a collection of a good all-round reference library of books that are by no means difficult to procure, and a collection that there would be no difficulty in duplicating by one person in a very short time.

Examining the works by the subjects, the list of periodicals is unusually good, and the same can be said of the religious works issued by the various non-conformist presses of Wales.

I have always claimed that in making a good subject catalog everything should be included that contains anything on the subject. This catalog under the subject entry contains only the works that relate to that subject in particular. Wales is a country of mountains, and under the subject of mountaineering there are only three entries. The Welsh claim Roger Williams as a Welshman, and yet this catalog contains but three publications about him. The rivers of Wales are well known by anglers for their excellent and many varieties of fish, on which subject there are but nine entries; botany has 15 entries; numismatics seven entries; bibliography nine entries; under Druidism there are 47 entries, which is a very weak showing, considering that the Druidical ceremonies are kept up yearly in the national Eisteddfods. Arthurian romances also are by no means well represented; and in regard to the Welsh literature published in America there is comparatively nothing, especially when it is remembered that there are over 1000 works published on that subject in this country.

In regard to the total extent of the issues of the press in Wales in the Welsh language it is difficult to make an accurate estimate, but I do not think such a list would contain much less than 50,000 entries; added to this should be about 20,000 works that have been published relating to Wales and the Welsh in the English language, which would make about 70,000. As this catalog contains about 4000 works, it will be seen that it is very far from being perfect, and there seems to have been little need of printing such a large edition and advertising it so extensively. HENRY BLACKWELL.

*Library Notes*, v. 4, October, 1898, no. 16: Simplified library school rules. [Boston, Library Bureau, 1899.] p. 242-316. O. \$1.25; \$1.

The re-editing of former editions of "Library school rules" on the lines indicated in the title of this new edition is a happy thought well carried out. The present edition must not be thought of as abridged, for it numbers a few more pages than that of 1894, making up for omitted marginal notes, alternative suggestions, and rules for special occasions—entry of trials in court, for instance—by the more explicit directions given and the wider range of topics covered.

The "Library school rules" for cataloging, accessioning, and shelf-listing are too familiar to call for comment; the prominent features now inserted are: a list of definitions of library terms, a few hints on subject work for a diction-

any catalog, with illustrative cards, and rules for book-numbering; each adding appreciably to the usefulness of the whole. One wonders, however, that in a text-book especially prepared for the smaller and more popular libraries, no mention should be made of book-numbering in accession order, a system possessing many advantages for use in classes other than literature and individual biography, and by no means discarded by progressive librarians. In 737, for example, little is gained by author alphabetizing, while by numbering the books in this class 1, 2, 3, etc., in the order that they are added to the library, numbers may be assigned at the minimum cost of time, rewriting of the shelf list is done away with, each book has a fixed place in its class, the latest acquisition on the subject is quickly found, books missing from the shelves are betrayed by gaps in the numerical series, and the number of the last book added also denotes the total number in that class.

The bibliography of catalog rules contained in the 1894 edition is replaced by a well-chosen "Brief list of useful books on library economy." This would have been of even greater benefit to the uninitiated and the inexperienced had there been appended to it a short list of the most authoritative printed library catalogs and supplements or serial continuations, which throw light on many dark corners into which the manual does not penetrate, and are almost indispensable for the intelligent handling of certain unique cases and up-to-date problems. Mention should be made of the full-face type used for headings throughout this edition of the "Rules," which greatly promote clearness and facility of reference. The index, though listed in the table of contents, and the rules regarding library handwriting, announced in the publisher's statement, are not included in the copy here reviewed, though they will probably find place in the cloth-bound "complete" edition, which, it is stated, will not appear till the latter part of 1899. With this issue *Library Notes* brings to a close its fourth volume, of which No. 15 appeared in July, 1895. F. B. H.

QUINN, J. H: Manual of library cataloguing. London, Library Supply Co., 1899. 164 p. D. 5s.

The intention of Mr. Quinn in preparing this manual was that it should serve as an introduction to Cutter's "Rules for a dictionary catalogue" and Linderfelt's "Eclectic card catalogue rules." The instructions given are indeed based upon these codes, but in the manner of setting them forth there is a wide departure; for here we have no series of hard and fast rules, each followed by technically worded explanations and exceptions, but an essay on the art of library cataloguing, written so simply that he who runs may read, giving various methods in use, with here a recommendation and there a caution, with sign-posts to guide and danger signals to warn off the premises, and with some representative books completely cataloged as examples, to show how simple it all is after all.

Yet, while the author expressly disclaims that his manual is "a comprehensive treatise on the art of cataloging books," or "intended for the use of the expert in bibliography," the ground covered is so well chosen, the point of view so wholesome, and the course pointed out so practical, that there is, perhaps, no one book on the subject that should be more helpful to the average library. After some 100 pages devoted to author, subject, title, series, and analytic entries, come chapters on "The classified catalogue," on "Alphabetization and arrangement" ("Alphabetisation," the word becomes in the body of the book), and on "Printing"; then, appended, a list of library abbreviations, a table of size notation prepared by a committee of the L. A. U. K., a list of about 225 modern pseudonyms, giving the real name with more or less fulness, a list of marks for correcting proof, with specimen pages, and a 19-page list of subject headings, the whole followed by a satisfactory index. The chapter on Printing is especially valuable.

The manual is written almost entirely with the printed catalog in view, the open question as to whether that or a card catalog is of first importance to a public library being barely touched upon; but a plea is made for the "sheaf form," considered out of date on this side the Atlantic, on the ground that "it maintains the book shape which every one understands, and it has the same advantages as the card catalog . . . besides taking up less room."

Specimens of library handwriting are given, but the typewriter is strongly recommended for either a card catalog or the preparation of copy, "as clearness and uniformity are insured by its use"; perhaps they are in the English climate, but with us it is often too easy to detect the date of a typewritten card by the progress made by the ink toward the vanishing point.

In weighing the relative disadvantages of the dictionary and classed catalog, the fact is ignored by the author that the order of the books on the shelves in large measure supplements the dictionary catalog, by enabling the student to ascertain the resources of the library along certain lines.

There are two unfortunate features of the manual. The first is the extent to which title entries are inverted and made to do duty as subject entries, the result being a hybrid production, unsatisfactory as either. For instance, we have Stevenson's essay, entitled "François Villon, student, poet, and housebreaker" given as follows:

Villon, François, student, poet, and housebreaker.

Stevenson, R. L.

Theory aside, there are at least three practical reasons why this confusing of subject and title should be avoided—the fulness of entry is not the same under subject and title; more conspicuous type is generally used for a subject heading; in the order of arrangement, a word used as a subject precedes the same word used in a title.

The second feature referred to is in connection with the list of subject headings which

forms the last appendix and is one of the few printed lists on the subject. The headings themselves are good and should prove most helpful, but the references are so inadequate and inconsistent as to conduce to careless cataloging, and so do more harm than good. In a glance through A, B, and C only, the following are noted, among others: Agnosticism, other headings used are Atheism, Deism, God, and Scepticism, but the only reference used to bind them together is the "Atheism—*See also Scepticism*"; American Indians, no reference from Indians; Architecture, no references, though Bridges, Castles, Cathedrals, etc., are included in the list; Art, references to Architecture, Painting, Sculpture, but not to Drawing and sketching, one of the headings given; Bimetallism, no references to or from Silver or Gold, or to Money; Children, no references to or from Kindergarten, one of the headings given.

To return to the body of the book, the sarcasm expended on entry under the full name of the author is perhaps a little unjust. Mr. Quinn would limit this practice to "great libraries of national importance," but in a library of over 50,000 volumes this is not a mere fussy conceit of the cataloger, but a real safeguard against both the scattering of books by the same author, and the grouping together of books by different men with similar names.

A few other minor points are worth mentioning. In the case of pseudonymous writers and married women, one is advised to enter under the better known form with a cross-reference from the other form, in accordance with Mr. Cutter's sober second thought.

It is somewhat surprising to find paging and small distinctions regarding illustration and size given as an essential part of the main entry, which in other respects is condensed with a view to simplicity and economy.

A good suggestion is made concerning title-pages in foreign languages, to the effect that in the case of musical compositions and illustrated books on the fine arts a translation of the title be given, or else a note in English, as many persons to whom the music and illustrations would be most useful may be unacquainted with the language of the book. Entry under title, however distinctive and "catchy," is not considered necessary when the subject of a work is definite and evident.

In analytic entries the name of the whole book or set of books is given in the same way as the name of a series, except that italics are used in the latter case. This is not so clear as the general method of the word "in" or "see."

The scheme for arranging an author's works under his name seems too complicated to be in harmony with the general simplicity of the cataloging advocated throughout the manual. Where the form chosen is that of the classed catalog it is urged that the author and subject indexes be combined in one alphabet. If the Dewey or Brown classification were used this would be open to objection, as the subject references would be to the class number and the author references to the page. — F. H. B.

## Library Economy and History.

### GENERAL.

AUSTEN, Willard. Bookworms in fact and fancy. (*In Popular Science Monthly*, June, 1899. 55: 240-248.)

"The frequent use of the terms 'genuine bookworm,' 'the real bookworm,' etc., reveals the fact that the users of these phrases approached the subject with a preconceived idea of the kind of creature they should find to account for the ravages only too apparent on scores of volumes which pass through the hands of booksellers and bookkeepers. To many the boring beetles are the only creatures which are rightfully called bookworms, and in their search other book pests have not been taken into account."

The *Library Association Record* for May opens with a paper on "The public library movement in Germany," by Dr. Ernest Schultze, who sees there a gradual awakening of library interest; there is a short article on "Public libraries and emigration," by J. Potter Briscoe, suggesting the maintenance of emigration information agencies by libraries; and hints on the "Cataloging of 15th century books," by J. P. Edmond, which are reproduced elsewhere. The comments, departments, etc., cover a varied field.

THE LIBRARY AND THE SCHOOL: a symposium by teachers, preachers, and parents. (*In Journal of Education*, May 25, 1899. 49: 323-326.)

"There is no question which interests the schools more just now than the use and abuse of public libraries. They should be of the greatest service to the school. They are not always beneficial, and are rarely as helpful as they should be. There should be a concerted movement to make them as valuable as they can be made, and to this end we have asked a few teachers, preachers, and parents from different parts of the country to write upon certain questions which are here given:

"1. Is the public library in your city of especial service to you personally or professionally? 2. How can it serve you better? 3. Is it of value to your pupils in their work? 4. How can it serve them better? 5. Do you think the story-books in the library are a benefit to young people? 6. What would you advise regarding the selection of stories for libraries?"

The foregoing, the editor's introduction, indicates the scope and purpose of the symposium, to which 15 persons contribute. Most of the writers are better supplied with criticism than with advice. "Story-books" come in for most attention, and the opinions vary from that of Meta Wellers, of Chicago, to that of Mrs. I. F. Wallace, of Somerville, Mass. Miss Wellers declares, "The public library is not only of no value to pupils in their school work, but, in most cases, a positive injury, as the trashy, sen-



sational story-books selected stimulate the imagination into unhealthy activity, awakening passions that should lie dormant, at least during the adolescent period." On the other hand, Mrs. Wallace says: "I believe the story-books in the public library are of untold benefit to the young people. They need the more imaginative after the grind of school routine. Where you find an intelligent story reader you will also find a bright, active mind during the hours of school work—a mind more ready to accept the inevitable with cheer and good-will." The symposium is opened by Mr. J. C. Dana, of Springfield, Mass., but whether as a teacher, preacher, or parent, is not indicated. Probably it is as a librarian. He points out the two chief difficulties in the lack of more active co-operation between libraries and schools: (1) lack of the proper spirit in the librarian, and (2) the small acquaintance of the average teacher with the realm of printed things. Rev. T. C. Jackson, of Maynard, Mass., who closes the symposium, calls attention to the lack of seriousness "in so many of the story-books" found in public libraries. He strongly insists on the need of books with a moral purpose. The symposium cannot fail to be of interest to every librarian.

**A MODEL EMPLOYEES' LIBRARY.** (*In The Railway Age*, April 28, 1899. 27:316-317.) II.

This is an account of the library of the Seaboard Air-Line railroad. The main library is at Portsmouth, Va., and it contains about 1300 volumes. There are also 10 travelling libraries of about 100 volumes each. Once a year an excursion is given to a resort on the line of the railroad. The company furnishes a train, while the proceeds of the privileges, etc., are devoted to the library fund. In 1897 this excursion netted \$690, all of which was devoted to the purchase of books.

The Seaboard Air-Line has issued a circular, entitled "Interesting correspondence," with reference to the libraries maintained by that railroad. Mr. Andrew Carnegie's letter accompanying his check of \$1000—a gift to this library movement—is one of the letters.

**LOCAL.**

**Allegheny, Pa. Carnegie L.** The library is to be remodelled and a new stack-room added, largely increasing its capacity and efficiency. The cost of the additions will be \$25,000, which has been given for the purpose by Andrew Carnegie.

**Atlanta, Ga. Carnegie L.** The transfer on May 9 of the property of the Young Men's Library Association to the newly organized Carnegie Public Library of Atlanta marked the real beginning of the new library, which was emphasized by the appointment on May 30 of Miss Wallace to the librarianship. The work of reorganizing is now well started, but it is not thought that the library will be opened free to the public for circulation use until April of next year. In the meantime the free reading-room and reference use will be continued,

home use being confined to members of the Young Men's Library Association as heretofore. The trustees have agreed formally to name the new library the Carnegie Library of Atlanta, and Mr. Carnegie has been notified of this decision.

**Augusta (Ga.) Y. M. L. A.** The librarian's report for the year ending April 1, 1899, submitted at the annual meeting on April 12, gives the following facts: Added 156; total not stated. Issued, home use 5304; membership 213. Receipts \$993.92; expenses \$864.80. The library was open for 12 hours each day, beginning April 25, 1898. It was largely used by the public for reading-room purposes, and effort was made to bring it into close relations with the local schools, by means of reducing membership rates to teachers, issuing special invitations to school children to visit the library, etc.

The president of the association says: "About three years ago the board opened the rooms free to all citizens desiring to read the magazines and newspapers. As a result of this experiment we have now about 200 readers of our books and 500 or 600 readers of the magazines and papers. It has been my earnest desire since I have known the library that it should be a free library, open to all. I feel assured that with the united efforts of this body and the trustees, with co-operation of the directors, it can be accomplished.

**Belfast (Me.) F. L.** (Rpt., 1898-99.) Added 500; total 8233. Issued, home use 22,852 (fict. 12,535; juv. 4998); school use 203. Registration 876. Receipts \$2061.52.

In July, 1898, a branch library was opened at Citypoint, under charge of Miss Dora Newell, from which about 620 v. were issued; this branch is open Wednesday afternoons and evenings.

**Brooklyn (N. Y.) L.** The 41st report of the library, which was presented on April 6, gives the following facts: Added 14,498; total 146,153. Issued, home use 88,941; ref. use 27,000. Membership 2508. Receipts \$22,045.68; expenses \$22,182.25.

There was a decrease both in circulation and in membership, and a deficit of \$136.57 is shown by the treasurer's report. It was learned during the year that a change in the tax law would render liable to taxation all property owned by the library that was not used exclusively for library purposes. As much of the library funds are invested in real estate adjacent to the library building, this change will seriously affect the library revenues, already hardly adequate to the demands made upon them.

The long list of gifts recorded for the year is headed by that of the large private library of James A. H. Bell, presented in June, 1898. Mr. Bardwell refers to the value and extent of the reference work done in the library, which offers excellent facilities for such use.

**Brooklyn N. Y. P. L.** (1st rpt.—year ending Feb. 8, '99.) The information given in this

report was noted on its presentation to the board (L. J. March, p. 123.) It is now issued in attractive pamphlet form, containing good illustrations of the Bedford (central) branch, and the Bedford Park branch.

*Brooklyn (N. Y.) P. L. A.* At the last meeting of the association it was decided to work for the establishment of small public reading-rooms in the various city parks. It was proposed to place the books either in summer houses already existing in the parks or in small octagonal buildings to be erected for the purpose. One such reading-room has been started in a summer house in Tompkins Park.

*Burlington, Vt. Fletcher F. L.* (25th rpt.—year ending Dec. 31, '98.) Added 650; total 25,350. Issued, home use 52,456; no record of ref. use is kept (fict. and juv. 38,511). New borrowers 698. Receipts and expenses \$4973.16.

It is suggested that the two-book system be adopted.

*Butte (Mont.) F. P. L.* (Rpt.—year ending March 31, '99.) Added 3055; total 25,068. Issued, home use 85,069 (fict. 71.44 %); lib. use 43,839; ref. attendance 14,896; new registration 768; total cards in use 4859. Comparative tables show the circulation record of the library, its growth and membership, since 1894.

*Cedar Rapids (Ia.) F. P. L.* (2d rpt.—year ending Dec. 31, '98.) Added 1513; total 3754. Issued, home use 33,874 (fict. 79%). Cards in use 2923. Receipts \$4996.31; expenses \$4865.12.

A children's department is the library's greatest need. Work with the schools has been carried on by furnishing books so far as possible to primary grades, and by providing for the secondary grades and the students of Coe College "bibliographical exercises designed to show the possibilities of a library and suggest methods in research work. This exercise includes a short talk on classification of books, arrangement of books on shelves, use of the catalog, and of Poole's 'Index to periodical literature,' and the general references to be found in any library. In connection with this, students are given books to find and subjects to trace by the use of 'Poole's index' and other reference works." An apprentice class has been established and several exhibits have been held.

*Colorado Springs (Colo.) P. L.* (Rpt., 1898.) The library received considerable gifts during the year, but the total v. are not stated. There were 30,081 v. issued for home use, and 1278 new names were registered.

"Over 200 mounted magazine illustrations, taken from duplicate magazines and periodicals have been presented to the library. This is only a small beginning in this line; it is intended to make it permanent as well as one of the attractive features of the library. The pictures are loaned to the teachers and pupils and serve to illustrate lessons, entertain and rest the pupils, and cultivate a taste for beautiful things."

*Chicago, Ill. John Crerar L.* (4th rpt., 1898.) Added 14,063; total 43,061. Recorded use 22,580; attendance 30,516.

Mr. Andrews makes an interesting analysis of the use of the library, which shows an increase over the preceding year of 24 % in attendance, 67 % in use of books, 35 % in use of periodicals, and 37 % in admissions to the stacks. It is estimated that the recorded use of books and periodicals, given as 22,580, really represents—including open-shelf use—an actual use of about 70,000. "Of every 100 persons entering the library, 82 come to read and 80 actually do use one or more books or pamphlets. Only 18 % of the visitors to the library were women; nearly one-half of these did no reading whatever, and a very small proportion used the current periodicals." Passes to the stack are given only to persons known to the librarian and when there is probability of frequent use; in other cases readers are registered for each visit. The percentage of serials consulted is estimated as about 45, a use that justifies the library's policy of spending half of its available purchase funds for periodical sets. The year's purchases were 11,238 v., costing \$24,765.51. The three most notable purchases were the fine ornithological collection of the Newberry Library, including 300 v., at \$4500; Humboldt and Bonpland's "Voyage aux régions équinoxiales du nouveau continent," 29 v.; and a large selection from Boncompagni library sold at Rome. There are now over 2000 v. on open shelves in the reading-room. From these shelves a loss of five volumes is reported for the year. "The net loss for two years has been only 15, or 3-100 of one per cent. of the total number in the library at the end of the year." Good progress has been made in the cataloging work; the classed subject catalog contains 15,300 titles and 23,651 cards; the author catalog is in about the same state, and plans for the alphabetic subject catalog are well advanced.

A special recommendation is made of the need of a room for the storage and care of valuable books, which should also "be furnished with apparatus for photographing the largest plates so that the library may not incur the risk of loss and damage incidental to allowing their removal from the library in order that they may be of the greatest use."

*Dallas, Tex.* A movement to establish a public library in Dallas has made good progress, with the active support of the women's clubs, which have indeed begun a vigorous campaign throughout the state.

*Des Moines (Ia.) P. L.* The "compiled reports" of the library, covering the years 1888-1898, have been issued in neat form, and, with a brief historical introduction, give practically a history of the library from its beginning. The report of Miss McLoney for 1898 gives the following facts: Added 1599; total 23,959. Issued, home use 133,629 (fict. 49.92 %; juv. 25 %; periodicals 3.80 %); ref. use 22,995. Attendance 160,123 (Sunday attendance 8653). New registration 1849; cards in force 9755. A typewritten card catalog has been completed for public use.

The monthly bulletin was discontinued during the year, but it is hoped that it may soon be resumed. A considerable clipping collection has been made, and a collection of pictures, including portraits, have been mounted and cataloged on cards. The slight decrease in circulation is attributed to the lack of new books, resulting from the limited resources of the past two years.

*Fairmount College L., Wichita, Kan.* The college library, which was organized only in 1895, has already an excellent nucleus for an important general library, containing 13,000 v. and over 25,000 magazines and pamphlets. It is intended for the use both of the students and of the community, and is the only large public library in a radius of 150 miles. More than half of its collection is made up of gifts from other libraries, associations, and interested friends, and further additions of the sort are always welcomed. Gifts of books, magazines, etc., are received through Ginn & Co., of Boston, or the American Book Co., New York, who will receive and ship packages destined for the college library. In August, 1898, when the college had been freed from all debt, a movement toward an endowment fund was begun by Dr. D. K. Pearsons, of Chicago, who offered to give \$50,000 toward such a fund provided other friends would raise \$150,000 for the same purpose before July 1, 1900. The work of fulfilling this condition has been well advanced, and it is expected that the amount in question will be raised before the prescribed date. The librarian of the college is T. B. Morrison, LL.B.

*Fond du Lac, Wis.* The first meeting of the Fox River Valley Library Association was held in Fond du Lac on April 19. Two sessions were held, and there was a good attendance. There was much interest and enthusiasm among the delegates, and 12 different towns were represented. Among the special topics were "Benefits of free access to the shelves" and "The library and the child."

*Fort Worth (Tex.) P. L. A.* The association has arranged for large and elaborate "gift concerts" to be held June 20-23, from which a substantial fund, to be devoted to library purposes, is expected. Many contributions have been received, and general public interest in the matter is evinced.

*Galveston, Tex. Rosenberg L. bequest.* A. J. Walker, executor of the will of the late Henry Rosenberg, has made a statement announcing that the Rosenberg estate will afford at least \$500,000 for the bequest providing for the building, equipment, and endowment of a public library. The bequests left by Mr. Rosenberg included provisions for the erection of a church in his native town in Switzerland, for a handsome edifice for Grace Episcopal church in Galveston, for an orphans' home, an old woman's home, a Y. M. C. A. building, 14 drinking fountains in different parts of the city, a \$60,000 monument to the memory of the heroes of the war for Texan independence, and provided also

that after the erection of these and the payment of bequests to his widow and other relatives, the residue of his fortune should be used for the public library. The next step will be to create a board of trustees, charged not only with looking after the library, but with the care of its endowment fund. The amount which will be used in the construction, equipment, and stocking of the building and the amount which will be set aside as an endowment fund have not yet been determined. The library matter will be taken up as soon as the Texan memorial monument is completed.

*Kansas City (Mo.) P. L.* (17th rpt. — year ending June 30, '98.) This is the first separate issue of the library report, which has heretofore been included as part of the annual report of the schools; it is accompanied with excellent views and plans of the handsome new library building, and is naturally devoted to the description and history of the adequate and attractive home in which the library is at last housed. The building, which was opened on September 1, 1897, gives opportunity for enlarged work and increased efficiency. Each department is described, and its various activities recorded. The total number of volumes in the library is given as 40,000; the circulation for the 10 months after establishment in the new building was 108,567 (fict. 43,894; juv. 46,081); the reading-room attendance was 141,723. The library was made free to the public in January, 1898, and the increase in circulation was large and immediate, 8000 membership cards being issued during the first six months. The reference work has also been largely developed. One of the most effective departments is the children's room, where 5000 selected volumes are ranged on open shelves, and where pictures, artistic bulletins, and flowers lend an added attractiveness. Here there is a separate card catalog of children's books and a card index to *St. Nicholas*. A special table is set aside for the smallest children, with colored picture books, the "Brownie" books, etc. The children wait upon themselves, getting and putting up their own books; in addition to the librarian in charge there is a special attendant to aid in returning books to and taking them from the shelves. So crowded has this room been "that the need of an extension or annex for this department is upon us." The excellent art gallery and the museum established in the new building give added opportunities for extending the library's work and usefulness.

*Lafayette College, Pardee Hall, Easton, Pa.* The rebuilding of Pardee Hall, the fine scientific building of the college, which was destroyed by an incendiary fire in 1897, was completed some weeks since, and on May 31 the building was rededicated with appropriate exercises. The college will soon have another fine building in the Van Winkle Memorial Library, plans for which are now completed. This is to consist of a central structure of two stories, flanked by wings of a single story, with provision for an extension in the rear. It will have a high basement of stone, with walls of golden brick, set off

with tiles. Its library capacity will be 55,000 volumes.

*Lexington (Ky.) P. L.* The newly organized library, which was opened to the public on April 10, has the distinction of being the first free public library in Kentucky, as it is also the oldest library in the state. Through various transformations it traces back its history to 1796, when the citizens of Lexington contributed a fund to buy books for the students of Transylvania and for their own use. The plan for the reorganization of the library as a city institution originated with the Lexington Woman's Club in January, 1897, and in February, 1898, the stockholders of the old library voted in favor of the proposed change. Conferences had been held in the meantime by the committee of the Woman's Club, not only with the stockholders and directors of the old library, but with the board of education, and the presidents of the boards of aldermen and councilmen. An appeal was also made by the committee to Senator Bronston in the interests of their cause, and it was in response to this that Senator Bronston originated and carried through the legislature a bill that removed, in cities of the second class, the management of free libraries from the domain of politics and placed it in the hands of a board of five trustees to be appointed by the mayor of the city for a term of five years. This bill became a law in the winter of 1897, and in April, 1898, five trustees of the new free library were appointed.

A lease was agreed upon by these trustees with the old library, and possession of the library building was given them in the following September for a term of five years, the rental to consist of improvements put upon the building. Under the management of the trustees the old library building has been changed into a place suggestive of light, air, cleanliness, artistic taste and practical convenience. Some changes have been made both in the interior and exterior of the building, notably the cutting of a much-needed window and the removal of unnecessary partitions, and tinting, frescoing, and interior decorations have been completed. Modern library improvements for the accommodation and handling of the books has been introduced, and over \$1000 worth of volumes have been added to the collection. The income of the library will be about \$2000 yearly, and the greater portion of this will be devoted to the purchase of books. The present librarian and assistant librarian of the library are Miss Mary Bullitt and Miss Mary Bullock, both of whom have received a three months' course of library training under Mr. Walter Greenwood Forsythe, of the New York State Library School, who reorganized the library.

*Lynn (Mass.) P. L.* (36th rpt., 1898.) Added 1738, of which 363 were gifts; withdrawn and missing 279; total 56,017. New members 967. Issued, home use 108,452, a daily average of 356; reference use 45,774, a daily average of 150. Receipts \$9265.32; expenditures \$8946.52.

The library has been greatly hampered in its work and curtailed in its usefulness by lack of

room and uninviting quarters; but on April 21 ground was broken for the new building for which the contract had been awarded April 14. A typewritten card catalog is in preparation, which will cover the accessions during the last 15 years. This report includes a table showing the increase of the library 1862-99.

*Macon, Ga.* A free public library has been established by Mayor Price, of Macon, and is to be installed in a building adapted for its use. The library was developed from what was practically a suggestion made by the mayor, and many contributions of books and money were received from interested citizens in Macon and elsewhere. A city ordinance was passed on May 16 conveying a lot to Mr. Price to be used as a site for the S. B. Price Free Library. On this site a suitable brick building will be erected, through the generosity of a citizen of Macon who sympathizes with Mr. Price's plans. The whole library project has been received with general interest and approval, and its success seems assured. It is specially notable as being a spontaneous movement within the city, and as putting Macon beside Atlanta in its interest in library advancement.

*Medford (Mass.) P. L.* (Rpt. — year ending Jan. 31, '99.) Added 892; total 20,322. Issued 81,505 (fict. 66%; juv. fict. 51%), of which 9463 were drawn for school use. New registration 989; total registration 6046.

The cordial relations existing between the library and the schools are referred to, and letters from various principals and teachers are given, expressing their appreciation of the help received from the library. The children's room has been well used, and its influence is shown in better choice and better care of books. Several exhibits have been held during the year, some of which were secured through the Library Art Club.

*Michigan College of Mines L., Houghton.* (Rpt.) Added 2207; total 13,561. "Books added by purchase relate strictly to the technical subjects taught in the school. The library has been selected as a working library, and is intended to supplement class-room instruction throughout the college."

*Nevada, Ia.* The city has received from the estate of R. J. Silliman an offer of \$3000 for the erection of a library building, provided it be established on a site indicated, opposite the Methodist church. A movement has been started to obtain by popular subscription funds for the purchase of the site named.

*New Brunswick (N. J.) F. P. L.* (9th rpt. and 16th rpt. of F. C. L. — year ending March 31, '99. Added 913, of which 551 were purchased; total 6678. The Free Circulating Library, which is leased and administered by the Free Public Library, added 142, of which 4 were purchased; total 9289, making in all 15,967 volumes accessible to the public. Issued, home use 56,111, of which 30,216 were fiction; visitors to reading-room 33,946. Membership cards issued 372, of which 206 were to juvenile readers. The librarian reports that

the use of reference books by children has been extensive and intelligent, and that they take it upon themselves to show one another how to consult both these and the card catalog. Receipts, Free Public Library \$3640.14; expenditures \$3505.71. Receipts, Free Circulating Library \$2154.49; expenditures \$2026.33.

*New Jersey State L.* The state library commission is arranging plans for establishing the travelling libraries for which the legislature made an appropriation of \$1500 last winter. The appropriation will not be available until November, when the state's fiscal year begins. State Librarian Buchanan, under instructions from the commission, has received information concerning the travelling library systems of New York, Michigan, Wisconsin, and other states. Of the \$1500 that have been appropriated for the first year it is expected that about one-third will be required to secure cases, catalogs, and other accessories. This will leave about \$1000 to buy the first stock of books. It is estimated that probably from 1000 to 1200 books can be secured for this sum. This would permit 25 or 30 separate libraries of 50 books each, or double the number of libraries if there should be but 25 books in each.

*New York City, East Side House, Webster F. C. L.* The librarian's report for April gives some interesting details of the general work of the library. "In two years we have instituted the 'open-shelf' and 'two-book' systems. We have added over 3000 new readers, and 2000 books to the library, and are in constant co-operation with about 100 teachers and principals in the 15 schools of our neighborhood. If it is desirable to maintain the work to the standard set since November, 1898, and especially during the past six or eight weeks, it will be almost necessary to enlarge our plant. Before school reopens in the fall we should add 500 or 600 or more books for young children, at an expense of about 40c. or 50c. per volume. We need, or shall need, more floor space, more shelf and more wall space, and additional entrance and exit facilities. We should have space for timely bulletins on various topics and all means for creating interest in books practised by up-to-date libraries. But we have not space for a cabinet-sized photograph, nor for collections of minerals, birds, coins, and other objects that we might add to the library if we had room for them."

The interest taken by teachers in the library is referred to, and as a means of increasing this interest, Mr. Gaillard recommends the addition of 175 or 250 books of interest to or selected by them, and the distribution among them of a printed catalog; "a good dictionary catalog in the desks of 600 teachers will be practically better than many branches. To sum up, we need, to increase our work, a new room, a new assistant, a flight of stairs on the outside of the building for exit, many more books, and a good printed catalog, all of which I hope to get."

*New York F. C. L. for the Blind.* In the report of the library's work for 1898-99 it is

stated that 1843 books and pieces of music were drawn for home use, as against 642 in the previous year. There are now 100 readers. A gift of 560 volumes in the Moon system was received.

*New York P. L.* The contract for the removal of the reservoir, 42d street and Bryant Park, the site of the new library building, was awarded on May 17 by the board of estimate. The successful bidder was Eugene Lentilhon, and the price accepted was \$378,692.39. It is hoped to finish the work within 14 months.

*New York State L., Albany.* The work for the blind taken up by the state library is described in a recent circular issued by the university. The plan of this work was first announced at the A. L. A. conference at Lakewood, N. Y., last July. "A few applications for books came in as soon as the first statement of the plan was made. It seemed wise before pushing the work to investigate thoroughly the whole subject of reading for the blind, that all plans might be based on the peculiar needs of this class of readers. Hearty co-operation was received from W. B. Wait, for many years superintendent of the New York institution for the blind, and from Gardner Fuller, of the New York State School for the Blind at Batavia. From a variety of types the New York point was chosen because it is easier to learn and less bulky than any other system, and because it is used by the institutions for the blind in New York. The library contains a number of books in other types. The New York point is so easily learned by adults, and even by those whose hands are hardened by labor, that no blind person wanting to read need miss the privilege. Alphabets and primers are circulated to those not familiar with the type. Correspondence in the New York point is carried on directly with the blind by means of the kleidograph. Through the liberality of friends interested, books are sent for the present without charge for expressage either way. The aim is to extend the work till it reaches every person in the state (about 5000 by the census of 1890) who can read or will learn to read type for the blind, unless already served by the two or three libraries for the blind in Greater New York. It will not be possible to reach those living in small towns, or in the country, without earnest co-operation on the part of many people. Co-operation is also asked in explaining to the blind the plans of the library and the ease with which they may share its unusual opportunities."

*Newton (Mass.) F. L.* (Rpt., 1898.) Added 2207; missing or withdrawn 400; total 55,420. Issued, home use 169,443; average daily use 556; largest daily use 1131. Borrowers registered 1344; total 10,175. Receipts \$13,294.56; expenditures \$13,294.12. Receipts West Newton branch \$1358.23; expenditures \$1287.07. An appropriation is requested, that a supplement may be printed to the catalog of 1892.

*Oakmont, Pa. Carnegie L.* The trustees of the Oakmont Free Library, for the establishment of which Andrew Carnegie recently gave

\$25,000, have selected a site for the library on the corner of East Railroad avenue and E street. The lot has a frontage of 125 feet and is 160 feet deep and costs \$4000, part of which will be raised by public subscription.

*Oshkosh (Wis.) P. L.* The cornerstone of the new library building was laid on May 30, with Masonic ceremonies.

*Philadelphia, Mercantile L.* (76th rpt., 1898.) Added 2506; total 184,411. Issued 65,485; no. visitors 251,871. Membership 2453.

The management has "decided to continue the prevailing low charges for another year, and in connection therewith have inaugurated a new departure by offering premiums to clubs as well as those who obtain new subscribers within the year. It is the hope of the management that this may, with a certain amount of judicious advertising, coupled with an appeal to all members and subscribers to use their influence in securing new subscribers, produce sufficient revenue to permit them to increase their purchasing power, to enlarge the scope of its operations, to extend its sphere of usefulness, and to make it in every respect an up-to-date institution."

*Pittsburgh, Carnegie L.* The Wylie avenue branch of the Carnegie Library was opened on the evening of June 1. The building is similar in plan and arrangement to the Lawrenceville branch, allowing free access to the 5000 volumes provided for general home and reference use.

*Prescott, Ariz.* The local library association has proposed the establishment of a free public library, in a suitable building, as a memorial to the regiment of Rough Riders represented in the war with Spain. Several members of this regiment enlisted from Prescott, among them Captain O'Neil, killed at Santiago.

*Rhode Island Historical Soc. L., Providence.* (Rpt.; in Publications, 7: 1, April, 1899.) Mr. Perry gives an interesting review of the special features of the library, and of recent additions to its collection, emphasizing the importance of preserving the valuable material in its charge. He refers to the importance of a publication fund, and urges the increase of the membership to 500. The danger of abstraction of important documents by too appreciative investigators is mentioned, and several instances are cited. In one "A man who served as a senator in a General Court of a New England state, gained thereby free access to important state papers, a good quantity of which he took away and a long time afterward sold in a neighboring state. After the trade had been made and the cash received, that man acknowledged the act, but justified his conduct on the ground that he had as good a right to those records as any living man. It is only 30 odd years since a lot of choice engravings were cut from books belonging to a great library by a Boston minister, who handed the engravings back to the librarian rather than be arraigned and condemned as a criminal. The Parliamentary Charter of 1644 has been seen here within less than a century. Some of the original Warwick

documents, which, though treated of late as private property, really belong to the town or state, are now in private hands."

*Richmond, Ind. Morrison-Reeves L.* (34th rpt. — year ending April 30, '99.) Added 871; total 24,847. Issued, home use 57,804; school and college use 1383; lib. use 5250.

"The past year has been one of unusual activity in every department of the library. The receipt of \$1000 from an unexpected source, and its immediate application to the purchase of books, stimulated the circulation for home and school use, and also added quite a number of books and sets of books to the reference department."

A typewritten card catalog is in preparation. A children's department is much needed.

*Riverton, N. J.* This town held high festival on May 25, on the occasion of the new Free Public Library being opened to the public. A meeting under the auspices of the Rev. Bowden Shepherd, rector of the Episcopal church of that town, was held in one of the large rooms at the Christ Church Parish House. After a short address from Mr. Shepherd, a speech was delivered by Rev. C. W. Nevin, in which he gave some novel accounts of the "Free" libraries of Assurbanipal, and quoted them as instances of the earliest free libraries.

By special invitation of the managers of the new library, Mr. Thomson, of the Free Library of Philadelphia, followed in an address on the origin of the free library movement in the legislation of the British Parliament in 1850, and the simultaneous starting of the movement in America in the same year. His address dwelt largely upon the advantages of free over closed shelves, and gave a résumé of the pros and cons most usually advanced by the advocates and opponents of this system. The address was concluded by an exhibition of a series of illustrated views of many of the principal libraries, showing the difference between those erected since the Vatican, Florence, and Leyden library buildings were erected, with the constructions at Washington, Columbia, Boston, and the Free Library of Philadelphia, enabling the speaker to offer a running commentary on these buildings and the equipments best adapted to the prompt and most efficient service of the public.

The audience was large, and the library talk met with an enthusiastic reception.

*Rochester (N. Y.) P. L.* (5th rpt., 1898.) Circulation 26,246 (fiction 13,779), an increase of 2031 over the preceding year. Registration 3104, about two-thirds of borrowers' cards being in active use. Receipts \$1230; expenditures \$1176.39. The report is chiefly devoted to a retrospect of the five years of the library's existence, and includes a table showing summary of accessions, circulation, registration, reading-room attendance, and fines, at the central library, and at its two branches, for each year. The library opened with 3058 volumes, and now contains 6487. The librarian finds that there has been a decided increase in solid reading

during the past year, and that good results are promised from the beginnings that have been made toward co-operation with the schools.

*St. Joseph (Mo.) F. P. L.* The librarian's report, submitted at the annual meeting on May 11, gives the following facts: Added 1807; total 17,226. Issued, home use 104,146 (fict. 77.76 %); ref. use 1571. Cards in use 4284.

The activities of the year were reduced, partly by the effect of the war with Spain, partly through the closing of the library for two weeks owing to an epidemic of diphtheria. The decrease in home use was balanced by an increase of 8 per cent. in reference use of books from the circulating department, and there has been a decline of 2.15 % in the fiction percentage. There were 5592 v. circulated through the three delivery stations. The list of books for school use, prepared with the co-operation of several teachers, proved useful, and the work with the schools has been strengthened and extended.

"A feature recently inaugurated was the preparation of sick-room collections, being numbers of illustrated papers, magazines, etc., for use especially by convalescents. But two volumes are unaccounted for from the reference-room this year, the smallest number missing in the history of the library."

*San Francisco (Cal.) F. P. L.* A new branch library has been opened on Fillmore street, with a stock of 2000 v. and a selection of reference books, magazines, etc. In view of this addition to the library's branch facilities, the May issue of the library *Bulletin* gives a short account of the six branches now maintained. These "are not to be regarded as libraries complete in themselves, but simply as detached portions of the main library placed as they are in order to make the library accessible to residents in all parts of the city. The branch libraries serve as reading-rooms, some of the leading newspapers and other periodicals being kept on file. Secondly, they are stations for the receipt and delivery of books from the main library. They also serve as reference libraries on a small scale, a small collection of standard reference books being maintained in each. Lastly, there is placed in each branch a collection of standard fiction and other books for which there is a constant demand, and of which several copies are required."

*San Francisco, Mechanics' Institute L.* (44th rpt.—year ending Feb. 28, '99.) Added 3366; total 78,391. Issued, home use 173,425 (fict. and juv. 146,122). Membership 4295. Receipts \$23,604.45; expenses \$22,946.61.

The reports of the president of the board and of the librarian are largely given up to the present unsatisfactory condition of the library quarters and the need of a new building. The present site is thought to be an entirely suitable one, and it is recommended that by disposing of other valuable property funds be obtained for the erection of a new building fully adequate for the development of the institute and its library. The president suggests a six-story modern building, "of which the ground floor

should (for the present at least) be let as stores, the next four stories would be devoted to the library, necessary offices, etc., and the upper and sixth floor be arranged as an assembly or lecture hall." Mr. Teggart also urges "the immediate necessity of providing a new home," and points out the disadvantages resulting from the present crowded and unsystematic condition of affairs. The growth of the library has made it necessary to press into service rooms never intended or adapted for library use, with the result that administration "cannot be other than imperfect and uneconomical." "Only an inconsiderable number of members make use of any part of the library except the first floor, which is narrow, dark, and uninviting; the periodical-room, situated as it is on the top floor, is inaccessible to many members; there is no adequate provision for the holding of classes, and the use of main library rooms for this purpose works a great hardship on the members who desire to use the rooms for reading and selecting books." A general rearrangement of the books is necessary to bring together single classes now scattered in various places, and it is pointed out that many of the books now in the reference collection should either be duplicated for home use or withdrawn for circulation purposes. The periodicals, bound and unbound, should be brought together in a systematic collection and efforts made to complete sets. A thorough catalog is needed, and in this connection it is suggested that the current accession and reference lists in the monthly bulletins be discontinued and space given instead to the serial printing of a catalog of the library. Larger book purchases are important if the library is to compete successfully with the public library, and if it is to keep up with the scientific and technological literature that should be its special strength. Minor changes, in the extension of special privileges to country members, the establishment of temporary memberships, etc., are suggested, and the report is a good, clear presentation of ways and means toward an increased efficiency.

*San Francisco, Sutro L.* The regents of the University of California have applied to the Sutro heirs, asking that the Sutro library be transferred to the university. They offer to erect a fireproof building, to be known as the Sutro Library, adjacent to the present library building, and it is reported that they are also willing to buy the collection if the heirs are unwilling to bestow it on the university. The library, which Mr. Sutro had often stated was to be bequeathed to the city of San Francisco, but of which he made no definite disposition in his will, is housed, as it has been for years, in the old Montgomery block, near the office of Adolph Sutro.

*Schenectady (N. Y.) F. P. L. A.* (Rpt.)—Added 1772; total 6779. Issued 33,017. New cards issued 573; total no. borrowers 2560. Receipts \$3651.91; expenses \$3175.09.

*Southbridge (Mass.) P. L.* (Rpt.—year ending March 1, '99.) Added 531; total 17,246. Issued, home use 19,696 (fict. 47.78 %; juv.

20.13%). New registration 226; cards in use 3871. Receipts \$2665.46; expenses \$2557.21.

Three exhibitions have been held through the Library Art Club of Massachusetts. Sunday opening was begun as an experiment in November. Appended is a classed list of accessions, 1898-99.

*Springfield (Mass.) City L. A.* The report of the librarian for the year ending May 2, 1899, was submitted at the annual meeting of the association on May 3. It states that the home use of books for the period covered was 150,424. The reading-room was visited by about 60,000 persons. Great use was made of the high-school reference list of 1200 books. In regard to work that should be done, special attention is given to the necessary reclassification and recataloging of the library. The Expansive classification will be adopted, and a beginning will be made by applying this system to the David Ames Wells economic library and the Catharine L. Howard library of science. The need of more books for young people and of a children's department is pointed out, and the establishment of branches is touched upon. During the year several travelling libraries were sent out to Sunday-schools, missions, etc.

*Texas. Libraries and women's clubs.* At the convention of the federated women's clubs of Texas, late in April, a report was submitted by the library committee setting forth the work done by the clubs of the state in the cause of public libraries. It showed that active work had been done in over 20 towns and cities, and gave the following summary of library activities: Library associations in existence prior to the organization of the state federation—(3) San Antonio, Fort Worth, and El Paso. Number of library associations organized by clubs during 1898-1899—(6) Waco, Abilene, Terrell, Dallas, Marshall, and McKinney. Libraries maintained by individual clubs—(7) Sherman, Shakespearian; Belton, Women's Wednesday; Decatur, Owl; Palestine, Self Culture; Vernon, Yumparlen; Victoria, Brontë; Temple, Self Culture. Libraries existing prior to the federation which have been aided and nurtured by clubs—(3) Houston, San Antonio, and El Paso. Libraries maintained successfully by clubs prior to federation—(2) Denison, XXI.; Navasota, F. U. N. Libraries established during the year and in active operation by federated clubs—(4) Palestine, Decatur, Abilene, and Victoria. Travelling libraries established during the year—(2) McLennan county, Woman's Club; Dallas county, Pierian Club.

*University of Wyoming. Agricultural College L., Laramie.* (Rpt.) Added 1080 v., 1000 pm.; total 5750 v. "The library, which is also the general reading-room of the university, is situated on the second floor of the north wing of the building." Free access is given to all books and periodicals, and three volumes at a time may be drawn for home use.

*Wayland, Mass.* Plans have been accepted for the library building, for which a site and \$28,000 were bequeathed to the town by the late Warren G. Roby.

*Waterbury, Ct. Bronson L.* A report on the advantage of Sunday opening of the reading-room, in force during six months past, recently submitted to the board of agents, shows satisfactory results, and it is understood that the success of the experiment will insure its continuance. The attendance has grown steadily during the period, rising from an average of 25 per Sunday in September to an average of 59 in February. "It was noticed that many who go to the library are people who work nights and have no other opportunity. Some come to the reading-room and ask for a whole week's papers from some particular part of New England, where they probably have much interest."

*Westboro (Mass.) P. L.* (Rpt., 1898; in 181st rpt. of Town Officers of Westboro.) Added 498; total 11,544. Issued, home use 31,005; visits to reading-room 7451. New registration 204; total registration 3293. Receipts \$1218.70; expenses \$986.12.

The first steps toward a new library building have been taken in the establishment of a building fund of \$5000, the gift of C. S. Henry, of Westboro.

*Winona (Minn.) F. P. L.* (13th rpt.—year ending Feb. 28, '99.) Added 2216; total 14,764. Issued 64,627 (reference use 25,978). Visitors to reading-room 17,409. Sunday attendance 1202. No. borrowers 2648. Receipts \$10,090.90; expenses \$9250.47.

"The transfer of the library during the year to the new Laird library building, which is a complete, safe, roomy, wholly suitable and rarely beautiful structure, marks an epoch in the history of the institution. At the time of moving the library was closed from Jan. 12 to Jan. 22. In two important fields the possession of the Laird library building opens up for the library entirely new opportunities for usefulness. We have a lecture-room ample for the use of such literary and scientific organizations as are likely to have need of a meeting-place. We have also a model art gallery which we trust will invite donations of works of art of a high order."

The board wishes to correct a general misapprehension as to the present name of the library. As a mark of gratitude and appreciation of Mr. Laird's gift to the city, it was decided that the new building which he made over to the board should be known forever as the Laird building. "It was not intended or desired to alter the name of the library itself. The legal style of this institution was fixed at the time of its organization as the Winona Free Public Library."

*Wilkes-Barre, Pa. Osterhout F. L.* (10th rpt. in *Library Newsletter*, May.) This report completes the record of the first decade of the library's history, and naturally reviews the results accomplished in that time. The statistics for 1898 are as follows: Added 1653; total 26,634; issued, home use 71,987 (fict. 64.8%); issued to schools 4239. No. borrowers 3980.

Miss James makes a strong plea for the necessity and value of a children's room—a want now happily supplied—and touches also upon



the library's relation with the local schools. There has been a decrease in the issue of books for school use, and she finds one cause of this in the system of making "selected reading a task work of the school curriculum, rather than a means of connecting the pupils with the library. It is a positive loss to library influence when the child ceases to carry to his home the carefully chosen books from the teacher's desk. The connection between the school, the library and the home is broken, and too often ceases entirely."

*Worcester (Mass.) P. L.* Plans have been drawn for an addition to the library building, for which \$5500 was appropriated by the city council on May 15. The addition, which will be a two-story and basement structure, will make it possible to enlarge and improve the delivery room, and will permit the establishment of a children's room.

## FOREIGN.

*Aston Manor (Eng.) F. Ls.* The annual report of the Free Libraries Committee contains a short summary of the work accomplished during the 20 years since the library was first opened. From the lending and reference departments together over a million and a half volumes have been issued. The number of books in the libraries has increased from 2700 v. in 1878 to almost 17,000 in 1898. Five editions of the lending catalog have been published, with a sixth in preparation, and the reference department reports two editions of its catalog. The librarian had also in preparation a class list of biography and fiction.

An experiment had been made during the previous year in the direction of bringing the contents of the reference library more closely to the attention of the public by placing on exhibition some of the more important works of that department, including those on art and art industries, antiquities, and natural history. The exhibition lasted for a month and attracted so much interest that it was decided to hold another in the following autumn. 15 free lectures were given through the winter, with an estimated total attendance of 6000.

*Battersea (Eng.) P. Ls.* (12th rpt. — year ending March 25, '99.) Added 1845, of which 1683 were purchased; total 42,775. Total borrowers 10,436. Issued, home and reference use 87,639, a gain of 3158 over the previous year. During the year the lending department of the central library has been enlarged, a reading-room for children has been opened at each of the two branches, a special department for juvenile literature has been added to each lending library and supplied with standard books, and a conference of teachers and library workers has been held, with the object of interesting the younger children in the libraries. Since the age limit of 14 years has been removed 664 juvenile members have been enrolled. A third edition of the central lending department has been published. Full statistics are given in the various tables.

*Bodleian L., Oxford.* (Rpt., 1898). There were added during the past year 66,847 "printed and manuscript items," a total higher by over 6000 than any previously recorded. Of these 51,231 were new publications received under the copyright act—6274 bound volumes, 2656 unbound volumes, 512 single sheets and rolls, 1602 cards, 158 volumes of periodicals consisting of 24,052 parts, 101 bound volumes of Parliamentary papers and 419 unbound papers, 11,865 maps, etc.; 265 volumes, 2069 pieces, 868 parts and 390 sheets of music. 8935 books or manuscripts were obtained by gift or exchange, 6409 new purchases were made, and 272 items were bought second hand.

*Bristol, Eng.* By the will of the late Vincent Stuckey Lean, of Bristol, the city of Bristol receives the sum of £50,000 for the further development of the free libraries of the city. The bequest is accompanied by the expression of a hope that the authorities would consent to opening the libraries for at least a part of each Sunday throughout the year.

*British Museum L.* By the will of the late Vincent Stuckey Lean, of Bristol, the British Museum receives the sum of £50,000 for the improvement and extension of the library and reading-room. The bequest was accompanied by the expression of a hope that the trustees of the Museum would consent to opening it for at least a part of each Sunday throughout the year.

*Liverpool (Eng.) P. Ls.* (146th rpt.—year ending Dec. 31, '98.) An interesting report, illustrated with excellent interior and exterior views of the main library and branches. The statistics show a total book issue of 1,576,217 for the year, of which 891,236 (fict. 656,850) were delivered for home use from the six lending libraries. In the reference library there is a total stock of 115,310 v.; the lending libraries contain 83,365 v. There are 25,511 borrowers. There has been a decrease in the reference and reading-room use, due in a measure to the improved state of trade.

"It may be mentioned that it was in these libraries that the blind as readers first received recognition and had their tedious hours lightened by a literature adapted to their needs. Five years ago the number of books lent to the blind numbered only 211 volumes, while last year it had increased to 1176. Much of this increase is due to the bright, cheerful character of the books. This special library now numbers 667 volumes. A special catalog has been printed, and is obtainable gratis."

*Manitoba, Can. Provincial L.* According to the 14th report of the librarian for 1898, recently presented to the legislature, the accessions to the library during that year were 652, giving a total of 12,937. Steps have been taken looking towards the erection of a fireproof building at the south end of the present building for the library and museum. This is regarded as a necessity, and the report strongly recommends that no time be lost in getting the proposed new building under way. A sketch has

been prepared of a suitable structure for both the library and museum, which will be submitted for the consideration of the library committee and the house, with an approximate estimate as to cost. The librarian suggests the advisability of printing the annual report of the library in pamphlet form, and requests the co-operation of members of the house and other friends of the library to assist in its further development.

*New South Wales P. L., Sydney.* (28th rpt., 1898.) Added 7174; total 124,401. Issued, lending lib. 92,685 (fict. 32,078). Visits to ref. lib. 176,879; visits to newspaper-room 162,170.

An interesting report. During the year the travelling library department was increased by 25 new boxes of books, making 101 boxes now available, and giving a total of 7539. 231 boxes, containing 17,253 v., were sent to 112 country centres, and travelled no less than 81,303 miles. "The trustees are of opinion that this branch of their educational work is worthy of every encouragement." "As far as the resources of the library will allow, everything possible has been done to encourage students in country districts, and the scientific and rarer works in the lending branch, together with any duplicates in the reference library, have been as freely lent to country students as to those in the metropolitan district." The work of cataloging has been continued, and the subject indexing (including full analytical work) of the reference library is being carried on. Mention is made of the offer from David Scott Mitchell of his valuable Australasian collection, on condition that a suitable building be erected for a national library, to contain the collection and make it available to students. The condition was accepted by the government, and a site is now being considered. Arrangements have been made for new quarters for the branch library and reading-room. "The experience of the past 14 years has convinced the trustees that it is necessary to initiate a system of fines, to be imposed upon borrowers who keep books beyond the specified period."

### Gifts and Bequests.

*Brown University L., Providence, R. I.* Mrs. Alice M. Sullivan has given \$10,000 to the Providence university library, to be known as the Joseph Banigan Library Fund, in memory of her father, the late Joseph Banigan. He was especially interested in church history, and the gift is to purchase any books pertaining to that department of knowledge.

*Candia, N. H. Smyth L.* The library has received by the will of the late Frederick Smyth, of Manchester, N. H., the sum of \$5000, to be devoted to the purchase of books.

*Clinton, Me.* W. W. Brown, of Portland, Me., has offered to give to his native town of Clinton a public library building, including a site. The building will have a book capacity of 5000 v., and will be equipped with 2500 v. by the giver. Mr. Brown will also endow the library with \$5000, the interest to be devoted to the purchase of books.

*Cuba, Matanzas.* In response to an appeal made by Major-General James H. Wilson, Andrew Carnegie has presented the nucleus of a library to the institution at Matanzas, the needs of which were referred to in the April number of the JOURNAL. A list of 2000 volumes prepared by General Wilson was approved by Mr. Carnegie, who directed that the books be promptly ordered and forwarded.

*Fort Dodge, Ia.* Mrs. M. G. Haskell, of Fort Dodge, has offered the city \$10,000 for a library building, and this has been supplemented by the offer of a site valued at \$6500 and a gift of \$1000 from Webb Vincent, G. S. Ringland, and Ex-Senator Olsen. The gifts are all conditional upon the city or citizens raising the sum of \$5000 for library purposes by July 1. They were accepted by unanimous vote of the council, and it is thought that the conditions will be promptly complied with.

*Holyoke (Mass.) P. L.* J. Pierpont Morgan, of New York, has contributed \$10,000 to the fund for a new library building.

*Marquette, Mich.* Peter White P. L. The library received on May 18 an anonymous gift of \$5000 from a citizen, which is to be used in erecting a third story or another addition to the building according to the desire of the trustees. The gift is made to mark the 50th anniversary of the landing of the first white settlers at Marquette.

### Librarians.

BAKER, George H., now librarian emeritus of Columbia University, received on June 2, on his retirement from the office of librarian, a gold watch, presented "as a token of regard from the library staff" of the university.

FORTESCUE, G. K., has been appointed Keeper of Printed Books at the British Museum, succeeding Dr. Richard Garnett. Mr. Fortescue, who was formerly superintendent of the reading-room, has been for some years past Dr. Garnett's principal assistant, and has won the grateful appreciation of bibliographers and students for his valuable "Subject index" of the modern works added to the British Museum Library, 1891-95.

GUILD, Dr. Reuben Aldridge, librarian emeritus of Brown University, and an honorary member of the American Library Association, died at his home in Providence on May 14, 1899. A memorial notice of Dr. Guild appears elsewhere in this issue (see p. 256), but an additional word upon his library relations is not out of place here. One of the acts of the recent A. L. A. conference at Atlanta was the transmission to Dr. Guild—then seriously ill—of a message of greeting and sympathy, in fitting recognition of his life's interest in library work. Dr. Guild was one of the active participants in the famous first convention of librarians held in New York in 1853, and his connection with the A. L. A. dated from the first meeting in Philadelphia in 1876, when he was elected one of the three original secretaries. He attended the first international conference

in London in 1877, and was present at many of the later meetings. At the Denver conference in 1895 he was elected to honorary membership by virtue of a vote carried electing to such membership all surviving members of the library convention of 1853.

MCCUTCHEON, Miss Mary, assistant librarian of the Wagner branch of the Philadelphia Free Library, has been appointed librarian of Girard College, succeeding George P. Rupp, who has been appointed librarian of the Masonic Temple, Philadelphia.

NEFF, Miss Angie, for nine years librarian of the Duluth (Minn.) Public Library, has resigned her position, and has been succeeded by Miss Lydia Poirier, for eight years assistant librarian.

ODOR, Miss Virginia Nelson, has resigned her position as reference librarian of the Cleveland Public library, and was married on May 10 to Mr. H. N. Rickey, a well-known newspaper man of Cleveland.

SAVAGE, Philip Henry, clerk of the board of trustees of the Boston Public Library, died on June 4, at the Massachusetts General Hospital. Mr. Savage, who was the son of the Rev. Minot J. Savage, of New York, was born in North Brookfield, Mass., Feb. 13, 1868. He was graduated from Harvard in 1893, studied for a year in the Divinity School, and in the fall of 1895 was appointed assistant instructor in the English department at Harvard. In the summer of 1896 he was appointed instructor in the English department at the Institute of Technology, but resigned before taking the position to become secretary to the librarian (then Mr. Putnam) of the Boston Public Library. In May of this year he was appointed by the trustees to succeed Mr. Putnam as clerk of the corporation. Mr. Savage had frequently contributed to the *Atlantic Monthly*, and had brought out two books of verse—"First poems and fragments," in 1895, and "Poems," in 1898.

WALLACE, Miss Anne, for eight years librarian of the Young Men's Library of Atlanta, was on May 30 unanimously elected librarian of the Carnegie Library of Atlanta, Ga., which is to be organized as a free public library supported by the municipality, and based upon the collection of the Young Men's Library, which was transferred to the new institution on May 9. The history of this library development in Atlanta is familiar to all interested in library affairs, and Miss Wallace's appointment will be welcomed by the many who have known and appreciated how her persistent and effective work has been an impelling force in library progress in Georgia. It is an indication of her fellow-townsmen's appreciation of her work that when her nomination was presented to the board it was voted to suspend the rules and elect by acclamation.

WARWICK, Miss Elma, graduate of the Armour Institute Library School, class of '97, has been appointed librarian of the Withers Library, Bloomington, Ill., succeeding Miss Evva L. Moore.

## Cataloging and Classification.

*La Bibliofila*, a monthly review, devoted to old books, manuscripts, autographs, etc., has been established by Leo S. Olschki, of Florence, the antiquarian bookseller, and publisher of the *Revista delle Biblioteche*. Announcement of its scope and contents of the first numbers is made in the April issue of the *Revista*.

THE first volume of the *Bollettino della Società Bibliografica Italiana*, published at Milan, is now complete. This bulletin, which is of modest size, appeals both to the librarian and bibliophile, and has reproduced some interesting illustrations from old and rare works.

CATALOGUE of the Library of Syon Monastery, Isleworth; ed. by Mary Bateson, associate and lecturer of Newnham College, Cambridge. Cambridge, Univ. Press, 1898. 30 + 262 p. 8°. 15s.

THE CARNEGIE (*Pittsburgh, Pa.*) *L. Bulletin* for May has a short suggestive reference list on "Contemporary biography."

HART, C. H.: Hints on portraits and how to catalogue them: a talk given to the fellowship of the Pennsylvania Academy of Fine Arts at Philadelphia, Monday evening, April 18, 1898. Philadelphia, Press of J. B. Lippincott Co., 1898. 32 p. 12°.

In 1897 the Academy appointed a committee of five to catalog the art resources of Philadelphia. This address was delivered with special reference to the action of the Academy, and contains many valuable hints on making a descriptive catalog of pictures.

THE HELENA (*Mont.*) P. L. has issued Bulletin 21, May 1899, devoted to "The library's work for the young," and including a list of about 500 books intended for children's home reading. The descriptive account of what the library has done along these lines covers 12 pages, and is useful and suggestive. The list, which is graded, has been prepared and is introduced by Miss Edna Bullock, first assistant in the library.

LIST OF BOOKS for township libraries of the state of Wisconsin; issued by the state superintendent, May, 1899. Madison, State printer, 1899. 4 + 148 p. O.

This list, prepared by Miss Mae E. Schreiber, library clerk, under the direction of the state superintendent, is the official source from which must be selected all books bought by the school districts of the state with the funds set apart by law for the purchase of books. 540 titles are included, and if at a first glance the proportion stamped with literary merit seems regrettably small, it must be remembered that English literature probably can not boast 540 books which are both within the comprehension of children and adapted to develop their æsthetic and critical powers. On the other hand there

is no book included to which objection could be properly raised. The list is of course compiled from the teacher's standpoint, and is admirably adapted for the teacher's use. It is divided into books for the primary form or grades, for the middle form or intermediate grades, and for the upper form or grammar grades. Under these main divisions the entries are subdivided according to subject. Not only is each book annotated, but the teacher is directed to the numbers of the pages where subjects likely to be of interest in the schoolroom are treated. Directions are given in the preface for tracing down a definite subject, such as Japan, by means of these references, so as to compile a little reading list. This method is somewhat clumsy, but a subject index is more than one could expect in a compilation of this kind, complete and painstaking as it is. There are author and title indexes, a list of what are considered the best books on the list, full directions for ordering, and many other excellent features. A few omissions are noted, among them "The Swiss Family Robinson," and Hooker's "Child's book of nature," which has not been superseded by any of the many similar books. The spirit of the list is practical and intelligent, and it should be of value to all who work with children.

The N. Y. P. L. *Bulletin* for May lists periodicals relating to art and periodicals relating to music contained in that library and in the library of Columbia University. In the April number the similar list of literary periodicals (M-Z) was completed.

The SPRINGFIELD (Mass.) CITY L. *Bulletin* for May concludes the admirable list of "Fiction for adults," begun in the April number. This list was compiled by Miss Mary Medicott, the reference librarian.

U. S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE. Library bulletin, April, 1899. Accessions to the department library, January-March, 1899. 20 p. [printed on one side.] O.

U. S. NAVY DEPARTMENT. Accessions to the Navy Department Library, July-December, 1898. 48 p. [printed on one side.] O.

UNIVERSITY OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK. State library bulletin, Bibliography No. 18, May, 1899. Best books of 1898, with notes. p. 581-604. O. 5 c.

This is the second of the revised and enlarged "best books" list, of which the first appeared in the latter part of 1898 (*see* L. J. Sept., '98, p. 350). The earlier issue of the present list adds to its usefulness. While recognizing the fact that this list must be a helpful purchase guide in many small libraries, it should be said that the title "best books" is a misnomer and that "popularity" of treatment or timeliness of subject seem to have largely influenced the selection. The very large preponderance of Ameri-

can publications (122 out of a total of 205) illustrates the tendency to choose a perhaps inferior book by an American in preference to a representative work by a foreign writer. The division of "Philosophy and ethics" is a striking example if this tendency: it includes only Baldwin's "Story of the mind," Hogan's "Study of a child," Wingate's "What shall our boys do for a living?" and Ruth Ashmore's "The business girl," in the "*Ladies' Home Journal* library." In style and arrangement the list is similar to its predecessor.

#### FULL NAMES.

*The following are supplied by the Catalogue Department, Library of Congress.*

Atterbury, Anson Phelps (Islam in Africa);  
Bartsch, Frederik Robert (Constructive work);  
Bean, I[da] H[enrietta] (Tanka);  
Bookwalter, John W[esley] (Siberia and Central Asia);  
Brandenburg, Edwin Charles (Index digest of bankruptcy decisions);  
Brock, William Wells (Booklet on osteopathy);  
Carr, E[vander] [Mc N[air]] (A primary arithmetic);  
Chesnut, Charles Waddell (The conjure woman);  
Culbertson, James Coe (Luke: the beloved physician);  
Curryer, J[oseph] C[urtis] (A practical station service register);  
Donovan, Joseph Wesley (Skill in trials);  
Eames, George Franklin (The practice of dental medicine);  
Egbert, Walter Raimée (Last words of famous men and women);  
Evans, Clement A[nselm] *ed.* (Confederate military history, 12 v.);  
Fairbairn, Henry Arnold (The college warden);  
Fairbank, Charles Alexander, *and* Hebden, Edwin (Elements of algebra);  
Fairchild, J[ohn] T[hodore] (A complete and practical solution book for the common school teacher);  
Ferris, Alfred Justice (Pauperizing the rich);  
Gillan, S[ilas] Y[oung] (Tracing and sketching lessons in geography);  
Goode, William Athelstane Meredith (With Sampson through the war);  
Green, Bennett Wood (Word-book of Virginia folk-speech);  
Hansell, Howard Forde, *and* Reber Wendell (A practical handbook on the muscular anomalies of the eye);  
Harless, Christopher Mayhew (Christian science against both science and the Bible);  
Haynes, Myron W[ilbur] (Modern evangelism);  
Houghton, Albert Charles (Edwin and Eleanor);  
Huntington, Dwight William (In brush, sedge and stubble);  
Loesberg, Jacob P[aul] (Sprache und gespräch. German reader . . .);

- Metcalf, Edwin Styles, *comp.* (Olio of isms, ologies and kindred matter);  
 Mondan, Georgianna Freeman, *comp.* (German selections for sight translation);  
 Murlin, Edgar Lewis (The New York red book);  
 Nichols, Wilbur F[isk] (Graded lessons in arithmetic, Grade 8);  
 Ostrom, Kurre Wilhelm (Massage and the original Swedish movements);  
 Pattison, Everett Wilson (Pattison's complete digest of Missouri reports);  
 Reichhelm, Gustavus Charles, and Shipley, Walter Penn (Chess in Philadelphia);  
 Risley, Richard Voorhees (Men's tragedies);  
 Sawyer, Edith Augusta, *comp.* (For student days and birthdays);  
 Sheldon, Charles Monroe (In His steps);  
 Smith, David Thomas (The philosophy of memory and other essays);  
 Smith, E[dward] Franklin (Text-book of anatomy, physiology and hygiene);  
 Sparks, Samuel Weatherill (Sparks versus Ingersoll);  
 Steward, T[heophilus] G[ould] (A Charleston love story);  
 Talmage, James E[dward] (The articles of faith);  
 Taylor, F[rances] Lillian (Home and school series);  
 Tilden, John Newel (A grammar school geography);  
 Van Arsdale, May Belle, *joint author with* Woodhull, John Francis (Chemical experiments);  
 Whitman, Peleg Spencer (Scripture worthies).

### Bibliography.

- ANIMAL INTELLIGENCE. Weir, Ja. The dawn of reason; or, mental traits in the lower animals. N. Y., Macmillan, 1899. 13+234 p. 16°, \$1.25.  
 Contains a two-page bibliography; 56 titles.
- BALTIMORE. Hollander, J. H. The financial history of Baltimore. Baltimore, Johns Hopkins Press, 1899. 16+397 p. 8°, net \$2.  
 Contains a two-page bibliography.
- CITY SCHOOL SYSTEMS. Chicago, Ill. Report of the educational commission of the city of Chicago, appointed by the Mayor, the Hon. Carter H. Harrison, January 19, 1898. Chicago, 1899. 16+248 p. 8°.  
 President William R. Harper was the chairman of this commission, and the report, with the numerous references in the form of footnotes, etc., is a mine of information. There is also a two-page bibliography.
- EDUCATION. Hazlitt, W. Carew. Farther contributions toward a bibliography of earlier education in Great Britain. (*In The Anti-quary*, April, 1899. 35:107-112.)

A continuation of the bibliography heretofore noted in the L. J. A list of Latin school-books is begun in this number.

FOLKLORE. Chamberlain, Isabel Cushman. Contributions toward a bibliography of folklore relating to women. (*In Journal of American Folklore*, Jan.-March, 1899. 12:32-37.)  
 Confined to books and reprints published within the last ten years. 81 titles are given. There are brief annotations.

MATHEMATICS. Bobylin, V. V. Bibliography of mathematical and physical sciences: catalogue of books and memoirs of mathematical and physical sciences published in Russia from the invention of printing up to the present time. Part III. (1800-1865). Moscow, 1898. 8°. [In Russian.]  
 Noticed in *Bulletin of the American Mathematical Society*, ser. 2, v. 5, no. 7, p. 374.

MILK. Rothschild, H: de. L'allaitement mixte et l'allaitement artificiel. Paris, Masson & Cie., 1898. 8°.  
 Contains a classed bibliography.

OMAR KHAYYAM. Jackson, Holbrook. Edward Fitzgerald and Omar Khayyám: an essay and a bibliography. London, D. Nutt, 1899. 41 p. 8°. 6d. net.

PAPYRI. Kenyon, F: G. The paleography of Greek papyri; with 20 facsimile plates. Oxford, Clarendon Press, 1899. 8+160 p. 8°.  
 Pages 129-148 comprise a catalog of literary papyri. There is also a list of 47 of the principal publications of non-literary papyri, arranged by countries.

DR. POOLE'S LIBRARY FOR SALE. It is announced that the private library of the late Dr. W. F. Poole is for sale, preferably as a whole to some new library or private collector. The collection, which was left by Dr. Poole to his family, contains about 3000 volumes and a large number of periodicals. It represents the gleanings of the famous librarian and compiler during his many years of literary labor, and is strongest in Americana, in which Dr. Poole was especially interested. Information regarding the collection may be had by addressing William F. Poole, 500 The Temple, Chicago, Ill.

PSYCHOLOGY. The psychological index, no. 5: a bibliography of the literature of psychology and cognate subjects for 1898; compiled by Howard C. Warren, Princeton University, assisted by Robert S. Woodworth, Columbia University. N. Y. [Macmillan], 1899. 4+173 p. 50 c.

This is the well-known index issued by the *Psychological Review*. There are 2558 titles entered under the usual headings. There is an index of authors.

**SARACENS.** Ameer Ali, *Syed*. A short history of the Saracens: being a concise account of the rise and decline of the Saracenic power and of the economic, social, and intellectual development of the Arab nation. London, Macmillan, 1899. 23 + 638 p. 12°. Contains a two-page bibliography.

**SCOTLAND.** Brown, P. Hume. History of Scotland. Vol. 1, To the accession of Mary Stewart. Cambridge, University Press, 1899. 18+408 p. (Cambridge historical ser.) 12°.

The seven-page bibliography is arranged under the following headings: General, The beginnings of Scotland, The consolidation of Scotland, The struggle with England, The crown and the barons.

**SOCIALISM.** Menger, Anton. The right to the whole produce of labour: the origin and development of the theory of labour's claim to the whole product of industry; translated by M. E. Tanner; with an introduction and bibliography by H. S. Foxwell. N. Y., Macmillan, 1899. 118 + 271 p. 12°, net \$2.

The bibliography of the English socialist school comprises pages 189-267. It is arranged under the following headings: (1) Six selected writers: William Godwin, Charles Hall, William Thompson, John Gray, Thomas Hodgskin, and J. F. Bray. (2) The school generally: writings, sources, criticism; the titles under this heading are arranged chronologically according to the date of first publication, with bibliographical notes of later editions; the first title is Edmund Burke's "Vindication of natural society," first published in 1756, the last, J. Bronterre O'Brien's "The rise, progress, and phases of human slavery," published in 1885. (3) Periodical publications; these are arranged chronologically from 1794 to 1863. (4) Biographies and histories; this heading includes books published as late as 1898. The list of titles under the last two headings is most incomplete. Why the list of periodical publications should stop with 1863 is hard to understand, in view of the host that has been published since then. On the whole, however, the bibliography is one of great value.

S: H. R.

**SOUTH AFRICA.** Hollway, H. C. Schunke. Bibliography of books, pamphlets, maps, magazine articles, etc., relating to South Africa, with special reference to geography; from the time of Vasco da Gama to the formation of the British South Africa Company in 1888. (*In* Transactions of the South African Philosophical Society, v. 10, pt. 2, 1898.) p. 131-293. 8°.

**THACKERAY, W. M.** Pages 721-743 of vol. 13 of Thackeray's works, Biographical edition (Harpers, 1899), comprise a bibliography, "arranged in the order of their first appearance in book-form," by W. J. Williams.

**TORRES campos, M.** Bibliografía española contemporanea del derecho y de la política (conclusión): Bibliografía de 1881 á 1896. Madrid, R. Fe, 1899. 4°.

**WEST INDIES.** Urban, Ignat. Symbolae antillanae seu fundamenta florae Indiae occidentalis. I, 1: Bibliographia Indiae occidentalis botanica. Berolini, Gebr. Borntraeger, 1899. 192 p. 8°.

**WATER.** Whipple, G: Chandler. The microscopy of drinking-water. N. Y., John Wiley & Sons, 1899. 12+300 p. 8°, \$3.50.

The bibliography (pages 260-289) is a "partial list of references to articles [and books] on the microscopic organisms and their relation to drinking-water, together with such other references as will enable the student to investigate the broader subjects of sanitary water-analysis and limnology." It is arranged under the following headings: Microscopy; Biology, Botany, Zoology; Microscopical examination of water; Physical and chemical examination of water; Bacteriological examination of water; Limnology: Temperature of water, Transmission of light by water; Microscopic organisms; Diatomaceae; Schizomycetes and fungi; Chlorophyceae and Cyanophyceae; Protozoa; Rotifera; Crustacea; Bryozoa (Polyzoa); Spongiae; Microscopic organisms and water supplies; Planktology.

#### INDEXES.

**CUMULATIVE INDEX** to a selected list of periodicals: authors, subjects, titles, reviews, portraits, 3d annual volume, 1898; ed. by the Public Library, Cleveland, O. Cleveland, Helman-Taylor Co., 1899. 12+792+4 p. 1. O.

The lateness of issue of this volume is atoned for by its great value and practical usefulness. Larger by 150 pages than its predecessor of 1897 it analyzes the contents of 100 periodicals with a fullness and adequateness that makes it a library tool of the first necessity. Such divisions as Biography (a classed two-page list); Poetry (18 p.), the full inclusion of portraits and reviews, and the analysis of the literary weeklies and the more popular journals, are mainly responsible for the extent of the volume. The entries under Gladstone fill three columns, there are 21 pages devoted to the United States, and such subjects as Birds, Books, Electricity, Municipal government Sociology are remarkably full.



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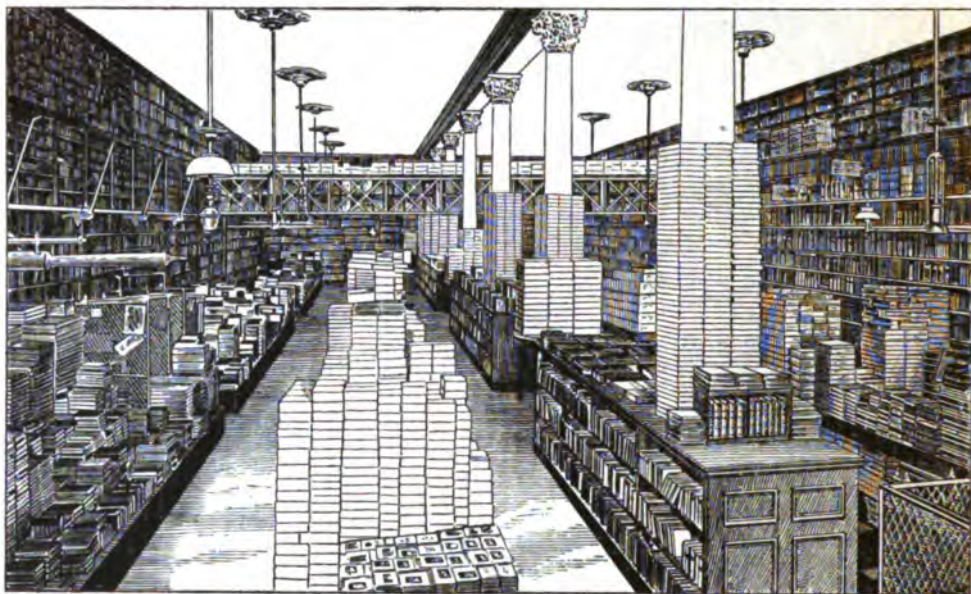
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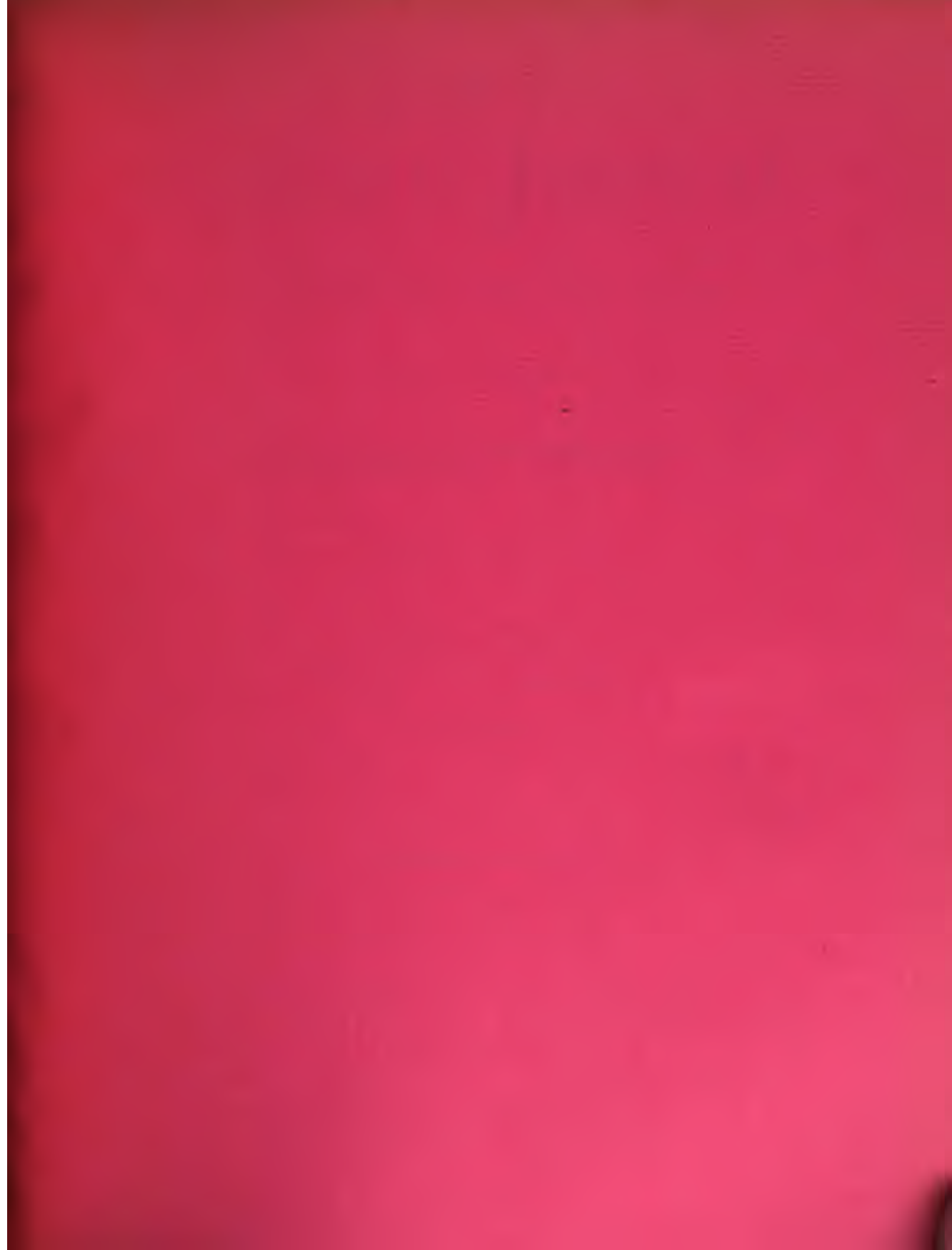
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# CONFERENCE OF LIBRARIANS.

ATLANTA, GA.

MAY 9-13, 1899.

## ADDRESS OF THE PRESIDENT.

By WILLIAM COOLIDGE LANE, *Librarian of Harvard University.*

THE program of our four days' festival, which is in your hands, shows the character of the feast to which we are bidden and the succession of courses of which we are asked to partake. It shows that beside the more solid and sustaining viands, of which I think you will find good store and full variety, there is an occasional interlude of lighter refreshment—a cup of Roman punch now and then as it were, in the shape of a reception, a barbecue, or a trolley ride—to make it easier to profit by the rest. The rulers of the feast have honestly tried to heed the warnings of their predecessors and have not intended to overload their tables. They have borne in mind Swift's direction—"Give no more to every guest than he's able to digest; give him always of the prime and but little at a time." If they have caught the infection of a bountiful hospitality from the city in which we meet, and if they have not had the heart to refuse additional and unexpected treats offered by some of the guests, prepared it may be by some new receipt, and handsomely dished up for this special occasion, you will not I am sure blame them. You do not know, even so, how many good things they have unavoidably deprived you of—one of which was the pleasure of accepting the cordial invitation of the University of Georgia to visit Athens for a day and break our bread with them.

Like the chairman of a public dinner I ought not to keep you from a discussion of the program by more than a formal word of greeting, and what I have to say shall hardly be more than this. But I have observed on other occasions when I have sat among the guests at these tables that the chairman is expected himself to provide the first course, something of a character such as we are all familiar with, neatly served up on the half shell, to be swallowed whole by every well-conducted guest without too much consideration or criticism—just a half-dozen preliminary mouthfuls, in short, to prepare the way for what follows. He is ex-

pected at least to mention how many times before this company has sat down together and with what happy results, to cast a glance at the events of the passing year, and is allowed to indulge perhaps in a few words of congratulation at the excellence of our own aims and methods. Let me not fail to follow in the footsteps of my predecessors.

This is the 21st of our annual gatherings, and surely by this time their purpose and the spirit which issues from them should be clear. We come together from all over the Union, and even from beyond its borders, to get mutual help and counsel; to compare notes on the best ways of accomplishing our objects. We find that others have been wrestling with the same problems that have engaged our thoughts, and we discover that they have usually reached some different solution from that we have arrived at—a solution which may or may not be better fitted to our own conditions, but which in any case is stimulating and instructive. We realize how broad and how many-sided are the interests and how widely active are the forces with which we deal, and as this becomes clearer and more real to each of us, that living spark of eager purpose is transmitted from one to another, brightening in the older and it may be weary workers, and kindling afresh in the younger and untried ones, the common desire to make the library a potent force for good in this masterful, moving, yet often floundering and mistaken world.

For many years these meetings of the American Library Association were the only opportunity for librarians to come together and know one another, and carry back to their individual work a quickened sense of responsibility and a new consciousness of power to grapple with difficulties. That the association has thus satisfied a real need is shown not only by its steady growth but by the number of local associations covering individual states or parts thereof that have sprung up in the course of

the last ten years. There are now 23 such associations in 20 different states, and it is safe to say that ten years hence there will not be a state in the Union in which the library workers do not regularly meet together to discuss their common interests. Without the additional opportunity afforded by these local associations, librarians, except in the cities, are more isolated than they should be if they would keep their own work abreast of what is being done elsewhere. Yet the local associations do not make the meetings of the National Association less desirable. These larger meetings draw together the ablest workers from east and west, from north and south, and bring home to all the interests of each in a way that a state association cannot do. We are able to focus here a far greater variety of interest and attainment. The meeting of a state association is likely to be composed of representatives from a number of lesser libraries, all having much the same necessities, or it may be dominated by the one or two great libraries of its section or by its state commission. Such conditions are not unfavorable for the special work it has to do, but there is a strength in being placed above these limitations, as is the case in the meetings of this association, and in having the ideas and methods which have developed in different parts of the country brought face to face, and still more in having the exponents of those ideas and methods sitting side by side, ready to discuss and criticise.

Another advantage which is the special privilege of the National Association is that it varies its place of meeting widely from year to year. It thus brings large numbers of us into personal relations with libraries and librarians that would otherwise remain unknown to us, and it also makes it possible for us to meet where library interests are as yet less developed and where we may hope by our presence and by our discussions to draw public attention to the importance of the objects we have at heart. Librarians have faith in their work. Some of us are almost ready to rest our whole social salvation on the library working with the school. At any rate we boldly claim that there is no movement directed toward a better social order, a deeper religious life, a truer appreciation of the beauties or the forces of the world, that is not helped by the library, no pernicious tendency or hindering narrowness that the library will not help to check. This year the

association has come further south than ever before. We have come, I trust, with open minds, ready to learn whatever we can of new conditions here, and ready to help, if we can, to open the way for a larger library development than the South has yet known. We congratulate those of you whose homes and work are here in the south, on the field you have before you, and on the influence on life and thought that you can exercise. In the progress already made throughout the country you have a rich store of experience to draw upon, an advantage such as no group of library workers or promoters has had in equal degree before. It is only yesterday, for example, that any systematic attempt was made to provide books and build up a reading habit in villages where as yet it is practically impossible to establish permanent libraries, but the story of the travelling library as now developed in 25 different states shows how much can be done for just such communities. Never before have such active measures been taken to bring the library into line with the school and to influence the character of children's reading, and the story of what has been accomplished and the endless variety of the work in its new adaptations is an inspiration for all who take it up in new fields, for the lesson it impresses is not what great establishments are required for success — though there is abundant use for great establishments and ample means — but rather how much can be done by simple means directed by human tact and sympathy.

You have graciously welcomed us to this beautiful land of the south. We would also gladly welcome you in ever larger numbers to the happy and satisfying field of labor in which we are engaged, and bid you be of good courage. Librarians, it is true, have their times of discouragement like other mortals. There is so much that might be done if only the strength, the means, and the wisdom were ours, and at times we lack all three of these necessities. But the work itself when rightly presented appeals so directly to the common sense and to the better instincts of a community, and as it grows justifies itself so plainly, that the librarian who is in earnest and has faith (and tact), whose first thought is for the solid success of the library and not for self, is sure in time to win the support of those about him, and to gather both strength and wisdom from experience and from watching the

work of others. Look forward then with confidence to the time, far distant though it may be, yet always more surely promised, when the library shall be regarded not as a luxury to be enjoyed by those towns that can afford it, but as a necessity equally with the school or the church or the country store.

In this place and at this time the prospect of strengthening library interests is particularly bright. Mr. Carnegie's generous gift to Atlanta will give a new impetus to the whole library movement in the southeast, and makes this the opportune time to plan for new campaigns and fresh extensions, and Atlanta the natural place from which to start them. Of Mr. Carnegie's many gifts for the building of libraries none is likely to have a wider influence than this one. A new building, and work conducted on an ampler scale, will concentrate public attention on library opportunities, and will, let us hope, so stir the enthusiasm of others that vigorous measures will be taken, first perhaps by means of travelling libraries, and later by encouraging the foundation here and there of small town libraries, to arouse and to direct that love of reading which is latent in every man and which under right conditions may enrich and purify the whole current of his life. Such a movement the whole library profession stands ready to help, and as the forces that initiated it here they will recognize the Young Men's Library of Atlanta, now 30 years old, and administered in a liberal spirit for the public good, the Library Commission of Georgia and its efficient and enthusiastic secretary, and the well-directed generosity and public spirit of Andrew Carnegie. You will be interested to know that Mr. Carnegie has indicated to me his desire to become a member of the A. L. A., and this morning the executive board, as a mark of its appreciation of his abundant gifts bestowed upon libraries and the efficient aid he has thus given to library advancement, has nominated him an honorary member of this association.

In looking back over the year that has passed since we met by Lake Chautauqua, the steps taken toward library organization in new states and among special classes of librarians are perhaps the most noticeable events. As the usefulness of the A. L. A. meetings led to the formation of state associations, so the good accomplished by the latter has encouraged the organization of societies or clubs identified with

a still more limited area and providing opportunity for acquaintance and mutual helpfulness for many to whom even the state meetings are inaccessible. Such development seems to me wise if only the number of meetings to be attended is not too greatly multiplied. Just here lies a real danger, however, and to my mind three such meetings in a year are quite as beneficial as twice that number.

The medical librarians and the state librarians have formed for themselves distinct associations for the discussion of the questions that more especially interest them. If this indicates any lack of hospitality in providing for the treatment of these subjects at the meetings of the general association, we note our shortcomings in this respect with regret, and we assure our brothers in the medical and state libraries that, while we recognize that many of the questions that concern the free public libraries, especially the smaller ones, may not interest them, yet we would gladly have the A. L. A. comprehend all the ever-enlarging library interests of the country. We still count upon their support and co-operation, and while it is plain to see that they may find it of advantage to have some of their meetings at other times and places than those of the general association, we hope that they will always also meet in conjunction with us. To the state librarians in particular it seems to me that this is a matter of importance. The state libraries have a double function. They are in the first place libraries of reference for the state legislatures, and as such they are mainly law libraries and collections of public documents, but in the second place they may be central agencies to which the smaller libraries should turn for advice and assistance, and this function they are likely to take upon themselves more and more in the future. For this reason, in my opinion, whether a separate organization in addition is found desirable or not, the state librarians belong distinctly in the A. L. A., where they have an important part to take and where they can best keep in touch with the progress of library work elsewhere.

Six new state library commissions, those of Kansas, Minnesota, Colorado, Pennsylvania, Maine, and Indiana, have taken their place by the side of those already established in Massachusetts, New Hampshire, New York, Georgia, Ohio, Connecticut, Vermont, and Wisconsin. No new state associations have been formed so far as I am aware, but the activity of

## LIBRARIES IN THE GULF STATES.

BY WILLIAM BEER, *Librarian Fisk Free and Public Library, New Orleans, La.*

THE history of the Gulf States from a library point of view is not very encouraging.

Florida is in the most backward condition. Its state library, founded in Tallahassee in 1845, has an uncataloged collection of state documents, legislative records, etc., and 9853 law books used by the supreme court, and the library of the state university seems to be unimportant. In some of the small towns efforts have been made by private associations to establish libraries, but they have met with but small success. In St. Augustine is a free public library, founded in 1874, which has now about 5000 books, and in Jacksonville there is a public library, founded in 1884, with 3000 books. In 1897 it reported 21 libraries with 47,419 books, of which only one was free for circulation to the public, with a circulation of 4,188 books.

Alabama shows an advance over Florida. The state library in Montgomery was started in 1838 by the members of the supreme court bar. It has at present 21,500 books. The state university library was founded in 1833; the library building and contents were destroyed in Wilson's cavalry raid in April, 1865. Since then there have been accumulated 23,000 books and pamphlets. Birmingham has a public library of 8000 books, which is not worthy of that centre of industry. Mobile has a small library supported by the energy of a single person.

There were reported for the state, in 1897, 47 libraries with 126,515 books, of which one of 5000 books circulated 1000.

Mississippi has a state library at the capital, Jackson, located in a building which is rapidly falling to pieces. Founded in 1838, the law books only have received proper attention. The others, packed in double rows, are practically unused, and the number of books by direct count has not been ascertained for years. It is probably 45,000, with an immense number of duplicates.

The state university library at Oxford, Mississippi, was founded in 1849. It has 16,280 books and pamphlets. There are libraries at the smaller institutions, Mississippi College, Clin-

ton, of over 2000 volumes, and Millsaps College, at Jackson, with over 6500 books and pamphlets. Natchez, Vicksburg, and Yazoo City have libraries kept up by subscription. In the summer towns on Mississippi Sound occasional efforts are made to establish libraries, but they meet with scant support.

In 1897 Mississippi reported 61 libraries with 180,614 books, and no circulating library free to the public.

In Louisiana we find the same state of things so far as regards the state institutions. The state library, founded in 1838, has undergone several changes of location and ravages by fire and water, but has suffered most from the want of support from the legislature. Its latest report shows the possession of 13,500 volumes of law books in active use. The 12,000 miscellaneous books are valuable, but are seldom consulted. The undistributed documents of the state and duplicates account for the large total of books claimed.

The state university library at Baton Rouge has been of late years placed in the hands of an energetic librarian. It has now some 24,000 volumes, including duplicates, but the library building is unfitted for the purpose. Shreveport has a public library founded in 1895. It has 2000 books. Crowley has a small library.

New Orleans alone of the Gulf States possesses fully equipped public libraries. From the beginning of the century the wealth arising from the handling of the products of the Mississippi Valley has attracted many persons of culture, and we find that almost immediately after the acquisition of Louisiana by the United States on April 19, 1805, a library society was started. The Touro Free Library was incorporated in 1824, the New Orleans Commercial Library in 1838, the Young Men's Free Library in 1846. None of these ever possessed more than 6000 books, and they all died after an average existence of six years. In 1845 was formed the nucleus of the present free public library. It was started in and for the public schools. On the completion of a new city hall in 1850 it became practically the city library,

precedes and that which immediately follows itself, and would have only an indirect and imperfect connection with other generations. It would lose what earlier times had gained, and could not itself transmit to more distant ages the result of its own experience. Books speak to us from the past in no uncertain or fearful tones. They, at least, are perfectly frank with us; they expose our folly, they chide our passion, they soften our prejudice, and we can listen to them and receive their lesson with an openness and candor which the spoken words of our immediate neighbor too often fail to win. Books thus make possible a continuity in human progress and stir in us a conscious and wholesome dependence on all that other generations have thought and wrought. There thus accumulates an ever increasing store of experience from which to draw strength for the work of the present.

It is our privilege to watch this process and our responsibility to make this source of power effective for the highest ends.

What a privilege it is, also, that we are always free to place ourselves at the service of another. Most men are so engrossed by their own work (so called) that they have no time, or not as much as they would gladly take, to serve the needs of others. Other callings, of course, when traced back to the basis on which they rest, are all forms of service, or the world would not long allow them to endure. Still, in many other occupations the man more easily deceives himself into thinking that he is working for himself—be he farmer, stockbroker or politician—and in this way he loses sight of the true significance of what he does. The librarian *may* be blind to the character of his work also, and think that by doing such and such things he is simply earning so many dollars a month for his own needs (and from *this* point of view how little cause for satisfaction he often has). But in the librarian's case it is *easy* to see the matter in a very different light. Really the librarian is one of the few persons in the world who enjoys the luxury of never having to do anything for himself, but of being always free to do for some one else. Is not this a great privilege, and do we appreciate it as we should?

Do we complain of drudgery sometimes? What is drudgery? Merely certain regular duties which have to be done systematically to keep one's work in good order. Every calling has such duties attached to it as a matter of course. After all how little there is of this in

our case that does not have some human interest to lighten it, or does not give a chance for some ingenuity to diminish it. How full of variety are the demands made upon us. What fertility of resource is brought into play in satisfying them!

Again, some persons are so unfortunate as to be shut up all their lives in one narrow set of people who all look at life in the same narrow way and are interested in the same narrow round of subjects, shut off from the rest of the world and all its busy interests. That is far from being our condition. We are expected to know something of all that goes on and to be interested in every one's hobby, and so we find something that we can do for every one, and thus come into the pleasantest relations with persons of the most various interests and attainments. From most of them we may ourselves learn something, for it is only in rare cases, alas! that we can ourselves become learned. We must often be content to point the way to others, but it is no small thing to be a good sign-post; a reliable sign-post excites frequent and lively feelings of gratitude.

Then what a chance we have to overcome our prejudices and catch the other man's point of view. If we cannot put ourselves promptly in his place, and get at least a glimpse of the subject as he sees it, we lose our chance to help him, for he is very unlikely, as you have no doubt noticed, to think that his point of view needs any explanation or is in any way peculiar to himself. This is the result of that "certain blindness in human beings" of which Professor William James writes so charmingly. *We* are troubled with the same limitations, of course, and sometimes we fail miserably to get the slightest foothold where the other man stands, but when we do succeed we are rewarded by a warm appreciation of our "understanding" and "natural good sense," and the exercise keeps us limber-minded and quick to apprehend.

How many other blessings we enjoy, how many other fortunate conditions surround our work, I might take the day in relating; but it is one of those conditions that we all like to talk, we all have something to say, and we all want to hear what every one else has to tell. To satisfy all these desires is a somewhat complicated problem, but we will solve it as best we can. In order to make a beginning, however, it is time for your President to close his remarks and invite your attention to the words of others.

## CONSIDERATIONS AS TO A PRINTED CATALOG IN BOOK FORM FOR THE BOSTON PUBLIC LIBRARY.\*

BY JAMES LYMAN WHITNEY, *Acting Librarian Boston Public Library.*

WHEN, some 40 years ago, the Boston Public Library first occupied its new building on Boylston street, two independent libraries were established there: 1. The collection of popular books in the Lower Hall. 2. The more scholarly books in the Bates Hall. For the popular department a finding list was printed in 1858, which has been followed by class lists, in many editions, down to a recent date. For the Bates Hall a list was published in 1861. The title in both was an "Index to the catalogue," etc., as consisting of brief entries which pointed to a card catalog, or the books themselves, for fuller particulars.

These indexes, moreover, contained the titles of a selected portion only of the library, but few pamphlets, for example, being included unless written by Boston authors or relating to the affairs of Boston; while subject-entries were not given in many cases, particularly where a publication contained less than one hundred pages—a poor test, as was then allowed, of the value of any production, and particularly so in science.

A first supplement to this index, on a like plan, was published in 1866, and it was proposed to follow these indexes with supplementary ones, to be gathered together at some future time, it was hoped, under one alphabet.

At this time the library took a great stride forward, the annual additions, which for a few years had averaged 7500 volumes, increasing to some 25,000 volumes, including special libraries, such as the Prince and Ticknor collections, which were given with the understanding that critical and scholarly catalogs be published.

Mr. Justin Winsor, soon after assuming the office of superintendent, saw clearly that this great increase was "almost a portent of future unavailing efforts to keep up in print with the growth of the library," and that it had become "a question of prime importance, with the

future so promising for continued growth, whether some change in the method of presenting the record of our accessions to the public will not be absolutely forced upon us."†

In the meantime, as the nearest approach possible to the catalog desired, a bulletin of new accessions was begun in 1867, which publication, with changes of form, has continued until the present time. To this, from time to time, have been added catalogs of special subjects in great number.

It is understood that the material supplementary to these catalogs in printed volumes which was being collected in card form was intended only for the use of the officers of the library in preparing a new index volume. Readers were obliged to examine many catalogs and bulletins, which numbered, in 1871, in both libraries nearly 30—a state of things which was felt to be intolerable.

At this time the foundations were laid of a card catalog, intended, under author and subject, to give full entries for all the books in the library. This involved not only the cataloging of the new accessions to the library, but also all the omitted material already alluded to, together with the recataloging of some 175,000 volumes. This work of preparation and revision has gone on steadily since that time, its scope and methods broadening and ramifying with the growth and development of the library. Since the establishment of the card catalog it may be roughly estimated that 400,000 volumes, pamphlets, and parts of volumes, newly added to the central library, have been cataloged, and, on an average, 12,000 volumes a year of older material have been revised and recataloged.‡

While this work has more than met the anticipations of its projectors and has proved in many respects an ideal catalog, the question has been asked from time to time by those who have chafed under its requirements and limitations, whether it might not be possible to con-

\* This paper was prepared last autumn at the request of the Trustees and Librarian of the Boston Public Library, and forms a part of the Annual Report of the Library for 1898-99.

† Annual report, 1871.

‡ From 1882-1897, 191,472 volumes were recataloged in the work of revision.



dense all this material into printed volumes, which could be consulted more readily and used outside the library building.

To this question the reply of the trustees has been that, owing to the expense involved and to other grave considerations, they were not prepared to enter upon an undertaking so vast and of so uncertain an issue. At least, until the library should be housed in a new building and all of the necessary changes of shelf-position and shelf-numbers had been made, a printed catalog, even if possible, would be an unwise project.

Now that this transfer has been made and the changes mentioned are under way, how does the case stand? What will the proposed catalog involve?

1. In the first place the work of revision must be pushed with vigor to the end, the catalogs being called off from all other special work to receive aid in this undertaking from an extra force to be engaged from outside. The cards for every book must be copied in abbreviated form, compared with each other, and if not already done, with the cards in the public catalog, with the shelf-lists, and with the book itself, while the subject headings must be submitted to a rigid test as to their correctness and their indication of relationship to the headings of cognate subjects. The catalog of a great library is a constant development; to its latest and highest requirements all the work of preceding years must be brought. Only when the work is perfected can it be given to the printer. The time needed for this cannot be estimated, but only guessed at from the experience of other large libraries which have printed their catalogs.

2. Supposing that this revision is finished and the card catalog as it stands now is ready to print, what then?

On June 25, 1898, the card catalog measured 12,523 inches linear measurement through the thickness of the stock. Reckoning 80 cards to an inch these cards number 1,001,840. Roughly estimated, from numerous tests made, nine-tenths of these cards contain one title each, and one-tenth two or more titles. It might be said that there are 1,200,000 titles (author and subject) in the public card catalog in the Bates Hall and delivery-room. This leaves out of account many of the titles in the Ticknor and Barton catalogs, which it would be desirable

to include in condensed form in a general catalog of this library.

An estimate may be made in another way. There were in the Central Library, exclusive of the duplicate-room, on July 1, 1898, about 524,000 volumes, or, deducting special collections, say 500,000 volumes. Reckoning two and one-half entries for each book (an accepted estimate),\* the number of titles to be printed would be 1,250,000.†

3. The question now arises, shall the proposed catalog be kept up to date; that is, shall the titles of books received while the work is in progress be added, or shall it include only what was in the library at the time of beginning the work.

For the past seven years the cards placed in the public catalogs in Bates Hall and the delivery-room have averaged 44,857 a year, or about 150 a day. As the preparation and printing of these titles in addition to those already in the library would push forward the publication of the catalog indefinitely, I will here make only estimates on the collection of books as it now stands.

4. Assuming that these 1,200,000 titles are ready for the printer, how much time will be needed to edit them through the press?

From an examination of numerous catalogs of this and other libraries, I judge that the number of titles to a page would average from 40 to 50, depending on the fulness of the titles given and the style of printing. Calling it the larger number, the catalog would fill 24,000 pages; if the smaller, 30,000 pages.

The Boston Athenæum catalog was printed at the rate of 1 + pages a working day; the catalog of the library of the Peabody Institute at the rate of less than two pages a day; the index-catalog of the library of the Surgeon-General's office, United States Army, at the rate of about three and one-third pages a day. Calling the rate of progress for the proposed catalog five pages a day, the time needed would be in the one case 16 years and in the other 20 years.

\* The dictionary catalog of the Boston Athenæum for the period from 1872-1894 covers 80,000 bound volumes and 5000 pamphlets, and is estimated to contain 291,840 cards, or nearly three and one-half cards per title.

† In this estimate no account is taken of the number of duplicate copies on these cards, the number of volumes made up of many pamphlets, or the number of works in long sets.

The catalog of the Boston Athenæum, work upon which was begun in 1856, was sent to the printer May, 1872. January of that year was taken as the limit beyond which no book should be added. On its completion, therefore, it did not contain the titles of books added to the library for the preceding ten years. To the index-catalog of the library of the Surgeon-General's office, and to the catalog of the Peabody Institute, the titles of books and articles received during the printing were added, except such as were included in the part of the alphabet already in type.

On the completion of the index-catalog enough material had collected in the letter A to fill 828 pages, while in the main work this letter occupied only 718 pages. In the Peabody Institute catalog this letter occupies 236 pages in the supplement, and only 136 in the main work. This disproportion would doubtless disappear in the later letters of the alphabet, yet it shows that the titles left over on the completion of a catalog may be as numerous when the work is delayed to insert matter received during its progress through the press as when, receiving no additions, it is put through more rapidly.

What will be the value and how great the use of a catalog which does not contain titles of books added for 10 to 20 years previous to its issue?

On the completion of the Boston Athenæum catalog I examined the books given to readers at the Boston Public Library for some days, and found that seven out of 10 had been published less than 10 years. Of course such a catalog would have less and less use from year to year.\*

By recent tests made by Mr. Chevalier, of the catalog department, it appears that of books taken for home use on given days 24 per cent. were published before 1883, while 19 per cent. bore date between 1883 and 1888, and 67 per cent. between 1888 and 1898; while of books taken for hall use, 37 per cent. were published before 1883, while 24 per cent. were issued between 1883 and 1888, and 39 per cent. between

1888 and 1898. On the completion of the proposed catalog for this library it probably would not contain one-fourth of the books called for by readers.

An opinion as to the number of volumes required for a printed catalog of the library may be ventured, based on the experience of other libraries. Six years ago an estimate was made that the titles in the card catalogs of the upper hall of the old library building would fill 16½ volumes of the size of the Barton catalog (Miscellaneous part). This estimate apparently took no account of the titles which have long contents, or of the cases where more than one title is on the card, and, in my opinion, it falls far short of being correct.

The Boston Athenæum catalog of 92,000 volumes and about 36,000 pamphlets is in five volumes with 3400 pages. In the five volumes of the Peabody Institute Library the 5000 pages catalog a collection of perhaps 100,000 volumes. The index-catalog at Washington in its 16 volumes, or 16,000 pages, represents a collection somewhat larger, minutely analyzed.

The British Museum catalog, with author entries only, which approaches completion, thus far fills about 110,000 columns (two to a page, folio size). These columns, if joined to one another, would reach more than 17 miles—a vivid illustration of the proportions which the catalog of our own library will soon reach.

With its more than half a million volumes and many thousand pamphlets an estimate for the Boston Public Library of a catalog in 30 volumes of a thousand pages each is probably a moderate one.

It would be difficult to estimate the cost of preparing a catalog of this library for the press and printing it. In 1881 the examining committee made a statement, based upon estimates furnished them, that the cost would be nearer \$200,000 than \$100,000. The catalog of the Boston Athenæum, in five volumes, is said to have cost nearly \$100,000.† Of the index-catalog of the library of the Surgeon-General's

\* "While the use of the catalog in print is vastly more convenient than the best in manuscript, and while our printed volumes may be of great advantage in other libraries and to a few students who possess them, it is very apparent from observation that the great bulk of users of the Bates Hall are in search of the newer books, which cannot be found in the printed catalogs."—*J. Winsor: Superintendent's report, 1872.*

† This estimate is only an approximate one, as may be seen by the reports of the treasurer. The librarian has stated that the cost of printing, paper, binding, etc., was about \$20,000, and that for many years there were from two to eight persons preparing the manuscript for the printer. The compilation of this catalog was attended with peculiar difficulties, and its cost was greater than might be expected in similar undertakings.

office one volume has been issued yearly at a cost for the printing and binding alone, and not including the cost of preparation, of \$12,000 a volume, or \$216,000 for the eighteen volumes (first and second series) so far issued, in an edition of 1000 copies. For printing the catalog of the British Museum, which was begun January, 1881, an annual grant was assigned which has risen by gradual increments to £3000 a year.\*

If the price be set upon the catalog based upon its cost, or upon the charge for the catalogs of other libraries, but few copies would be sold. Even if a nominal price were named, judging from the experience of the library, the sale would probably be quite limited.

As already stated, in place of a new general catalog in a printed volume, the bulletin was established, which gives ready access to the new additions to the library.

Moreover, as any subject has come into prominence or general interest it has been made the occasion for preparing a special catalog, in which, with the aid offered by specialists, the titles of the most helpful and authoritative works have been gathered. As an example, there may be cited the list of books on social reform, published this year. Such lists as these, drawn from the general catalog, when the interest of the public on any particular question or department of literature is ardent, are timely and of service, whereas such a topic in a general printed catalog might at any given moment not have been reached or be a dozen years behind the time.†

On the completion of this proposed catalog a million cards will probably have accumulated, necessitating the preparation of the first of many

\* For the British Museum catalog the yearly subscription for the parts, which began to appear about 1881, is £3 10s. The selling price of the entire catalog will be £34. About 40 copies have been sold and as many given away. The price of the five volumes of the Peabody Institute catalog is \$37, and \$11.50 for volumes 1-3 of the second series. The Boston Athenæum catalog is sold for \$5 a volume, and to libraries at \$20 for the entire work. About 350 copies have been sold. The price for the catalog of the library of the Surgeon-General's office is \$3.50 a volume; for that of the Bibliothèque Nationale 15 francs a volume.

† The Austrian Library Association, at its meeting held on March 26 of this year, decided to abandon the plan for an Austrian general catalog, owing to lack of adequate support, but in its place it voted to publish bulletins devoted to library matters. — *Library Journal*, September, 1898.

supplements to follow. The library would then be confronted with the state of things which led its first superintendent, Mr. Jewett, to affirm that "Nothing short of what a card catalog is in plan can ever be regarded as entirely satisfactory for a great public library,"‡ and his successor, Mr. Winsor, to agree with the view of European librarians that "printing in a large and a rapidly growing library is impracticable."\*\*

Nothing has been said in regard to the printer's part in the proposed catalog, for the reason that the other considerations adduced are the vital ones. With the addition of another press and linotype the proposed catalog could be put in type to keep pace with the supply of matter furnished by the editors.

With the coming of the linotype there was a suggestion that the way might be open for a catalog of the entire library in printed volumes, and moreover that by holding the solid lines or "slugs," insertions might be made and the catalog kept up to date.

In this library the linotype has been tested in catalog work to the following extent: In addition to the printing of the titles of accessions for the card catalog and the special catalogs, a *Monthly Bulletin* has been issued, and at the end of 20 months about two-thirds of this matter has been reprinted, with some changes, from the same slugs, as an "Annual list." Although this is an author catalog, † arranged simply by classes, and much less intricate than a dictionary catalog of authors and subjects, many difficulties have been met with in its development. If the attempt should be made to unite the slugs for the annual list with others for a two-year list or a five-year list, as has been proposed, these difficulties would multiply many fold. To mention one: to the labor of finding the slugs and rearranging them there would be added the constantly increasing necessity for a new grouping. It would probably be more economical to set up the whole list anew. For it is a settled principle that work ought to be perfected before it is sent to the printer; all changes and new arrangements after that are disastrous. The same principle holds good with the linotype. Editorial work must be done elsewhere

‡ Annual Report 1861.

\*\* Annual Report, 1872.

†† This was followed by a second annual list, Jan. 1, 1899.

than in the printer's office, or the linotype room.

With the linotype as up to this time developed, methods which hold good for printing such a publication as the annual list would cease to be operative in the case of a larger and certainly of a much larger catalog. The cost of arrangement and editing would be out of all proportion to the increase of titles.

The case as it stands is as stated. Should the linotype ever through the progress of invention overcome its present limitations and effect that which now seems impossible, no one will rejoice more than the maker of catalogs.

The Examining Committee of Citizens for 1886, impressed with requirements of the catalog department, suggested "that \$100,000 be secured by public grant, private subscription—or by all combined—the income of which should be exclusively devoted in perpetuity to the Bates Hall catalog."

With this sum in hand, it would be worth while to consider whether, if it be impossible to make an elaborate author and subject catalog, some quicker and less expensive substitute might not be found.

1. An author catalog, that is, one in which entries are given only under authors' names, and not, as in a dictionary catalog, under subjects also, could be prepared with less delay and cost. That of the British Museum has been mentioned. The Bibliothèque Nationale, has begun the publication of such a catalog, of which the first volume contains, in 565 pages, 11,067 titles, or about one-fourth of the titles of works of authors whose name begins with the letter A.\*

As to the value of an author catalog it should be said that however the case may be in the Bibliothèque Nationale, or in a university library, in the Boston Public Library an author catalog would be of less value than one under subjects.

One comes to a library to learn one of two things: 1. Whether a certain book is there; or 2. What the library has on a given subject. The first point is settled by author catalog, and it is the only one settled except the question of the bibliographer, who wishes to learn the exact title of an out of the way book. An answer to

the second question is found in a subject catalog.

The scholar, familiar with literature, will seek what he needs in an author catalog. Even here he will obtain more satisfactory results from the card catalog of the library than from its abbreviated reproduction in book form. The general inquirer, however, as a rule does not know the particular book required, and asks what books are in the library under a given subject. This question cannot be answered by an author catalog whether in book form or on cards.

The publication of an author catalog for the benefit of all countries may perhaps be justified in the case of the British Museum and the Bibliothèque Nationale, as being national libraries and containing in the largest gatherings of books in the world an approach to a universal collection. The library on this side of the Atlantic most nearly approximating such a collection ought ultimately to be our own national library. This institution receives copies of every book copyrighted in the United States. Even if it should not attempt to publish a complete catalog of its collection it is conceivable that an author catalog of at least this portion, representing a complete, authoritative description of all the issues of the American press, might be of sufficient service to bibliography to justify its expense.† It would have the advantage, which trade catalogs do not possess, of being a full, precise, and scholarly description. Such a work, however, needs to be issued under the authority of one institution only. It does not need to be repeated by other libraries.

If each national library would at least undertake such a catalog for the issues of the press of its country, the publications of the world would be economically recorded. But however proper a work like this might be for a national library, with a collection of copyright material presumably complete, and with the resources of a nation behind it, the Boston Public Library stands in a very different position. It is to an extent a scholars' library; it is also a popular library. It does not contain, and does not wish to contain, more than a fraction of the

\*The introduction by M. Delisle is interesting, especially section 15, "Raisons qui ont fait adopter l'ordre alphabétique pour le catalogue."

†A catalog of authors was begun by the Library of Congress in 1874, but it was continued only through the letter C. This library's catalog of the title entries of books and other articles entered in the office of the Register of Copyrights is a publication in the direction indicated.

books published in this country. The bibliographical value of its catalog in print, therefore, would be limited accordingly, while the material published abroad which it contains, being for the most part duplicated in the British Museum and the Bibliothèque Nationale together, is adequately recorded at their expense in their catalogs.

So much for the scholarly side, the bibliography pure and simple. For the popular service, the *Monthly Bulletin* and special lists, as they are issued from time to time, are adequate and more to the purpose.

2. The titles under authors might be grouped under classes, as in our *Monthly Bulletin* and annual list. Such a list of all the books of this library, however, would need a classification so extensive and indexes so minute that the labor might quite equal that of finishing the preparation and the printing of our dictionary catalog of authors and subjects. The annual list is only a selection from the *Monthly Bulletins*, which are themselves only a partial record of the books currently received. From the labor expended on this list (which is without indexes) one can imagine the time needed for the preparation of an indexed list of all the books received by this library for nearly 50 years.

3. Some years ago, in the Boylston street building, when the pressure for space for the card catalog was a matter of concern, a plan was formed to take out certain sections and print them separately in volumes. While the work done in this direction has great value, as approaching the subjects treated from a different point of view from our dictionary catalog, and, while it also supplements that work, the library has never seen the wisdom of substituting these lists for the fuller entries in the card catalog, or breaking up the completeness and continuity of that great work. Still, some such plan may be forced upon us in the future.

I have presented the question of a catalog in a printed volume for the Boston Public Library succinctly, and I trust fairly, for consideration.

I think that such an undertaking would be unwise. The decision of 26 years ago was

based on reasons which have gathered strength with the passing of time.

POSTSCRIPT. — A statement in the *Quarterly Review* for October, 1898, in regard to the book catalog of the British Museum, supplements the information given in the preceding report. It is there stated that the complete catalog will consist of about 600 volumes, containing on an average 250 columns each. During its progress through the press the accessions to the library have exceeded half a million titles, only a fraction of which will appear in this catalog. The number of copies available is about 250, but of these less than one-third have passed into circulation, and even of that number about one-half have been given gratuitously. A supplementary catalog of accessions was printed, which a subscriber could obtain for £3 a year in addition to his subscription of £3 10s. for the principal catalog. But this accessions catalog found scarcely any subscribers, and the issue has now been contracted within the narrowest possible limits. The writer adds: "The present situation may be summed up in the statement that the catalog of the British Museum is almost unknown outside of the reading-room; that its complete form is found in the reading-room alone, and that the very few persons who have access to it beyond those precincts possess it in a form which is so incomplete as well-nigh to frustrate the chief reason of its existence."\*

In the periodical *Literature* for Jan. 10, 1899, it is stated that the officials of the Bibliothèque Nationale have been compelled to cease printing their catalog by reason of the great expense involved. When the work was undertaken it was estimated that the catalog would occupy some 80 volumes. The first volume cost £1600, so that the cost of the entire work might be £130,000.†

\* In a circular from the British Museum, dated 15th April, 1899, the statement is made that a supplement will be published to include the titles, not yet incorporated, of all works acquired since the commencement of the printing of the catalogs to the end of 1899.

† Last week M. Émile Terquem, of Paris, told me that at some future time, it may be two years or it may be ten, other volumes would no doubt appear,

## HOW TO ENCOURAGE THE FOUNDATION OF LIBRARIES IN SMALL TOWNS: REMARKS SUGGESTED BY SERVICE ON THE MASSACHUSETTS FREE PUBLIC LIBRARY COMMISSION.

BY SAMUEL SWETT GREEN, *Librarian of Worcester (Mass.) Public Library.*

THE Free Public Library Commission of Massachusetts was the first state library commission established. Since the appointment of its members, in October, 1890, I have been a member, and wish, now, in the simplest way, to make a few suggestions in regard to the foundation of public libraries in small towns, using the term in a strict sense.

There are 353 towns in Massachusetts. When the library commission began its work in 1890 there were 351 towns, and 105 of these had no free public library. That number has been so reduced that there are now only seven towns in the Commonwealth which do not enjoy public library privileges.

An obstacle often encountered in establishing a public library is its location. If a town has more than one village. It will be gratifying to learn that this obstacle has always been successfully removed through suggestions made by members of the commission. In one small town, I remember, one village already had an association library. That, the association gave to the town. The town library, thus augmented, was housed in a town hall in the village. In two other villages branch libraries were opened, one in a disused school-house and a third in another town building. Books kept in one village can from time to time be exchanged for those in another village.

Another solution of the problem for accommodating persons in all parts of a town is to have the whole library in one village and send from it boxes of books at regular intervals to other villages. Boxes or volumes may also be sent to school-houses as needed by teachers and scholars. In sending books from one part of the town to another the wagons of butchers, fishsellers, and other persons whose business takes them from one village to another, mail wagons, stage coaches, trolley cars, and even private conveyances of public-spirited residents may be availed of. If persons go regularly to the village where the library is kept, on Sunday, the library could be kept open an hour on that day for the exchange of books.

Persons attending library conventions from small towns hear much about cataloging, classification, charging systems, and other matters that are not at all applicable to their needs.

In a small town with little money to spend very simple library methods are desirable. It would not be found necessary, for example, to have a card catalog. In a report which has just been issued by the Free Public Library Commission of Massachusetts to give an account of every public library in the Commonwealth, with pictures of all separate library buildings, only 150 of 344 libraries report that they have card catalogs. Very likely some of them have such catalogs which have not reported them. It seems probable, however, that one-half, if not more, of the libraries in the state, are without catalogs of this kind, and they, without doubt, get along very well without them.

In small towns it is practicable to let users of libraries go to the shelves to pick out books for themselves, and where a catalog is desirable for use at delivery stations and in homes away from library buildings, a cheaply printed list of the volumes, with occasional supplementary lists issued by the library, or in a local paper, gives the service needed. Expense in management is to be avoided, and as much money as possible should be used in buying books and magazines to circulate. In many of the smaller towns much gratuitous service is rendered by residents, different persons taking turns in giving out books, helping readers, and attending to other kinds of library work. Such service may be used exclusively or a small sum of money, \$25 to \$50 a year, may be paid to some person to keep things neat and other persons can give their services.

Perhaps the small sum of money mentioned would secure a place for the library in a conveniently situated house as well as much of the needed service. It seems well for persons interested in founding libraries in small towns to establish pleasant personal relations with some person who has knowledge of library work. I

like the methods in use in the commission which I represent, because they bring about these relations. When a library is to be established in a little town the business of aiding the town is put into the hands of a single member of the commission, who corresponds with the proper persons in the town, finds out what books are accessible there, what the tastes and needs of the people are, and what kinds of books are desired, and, generally, what the library situation is in the town.

By personal correspondence difficulties are removed and a wise selection of books is made. Then, too, the person who has been aiding the town always feels an interest in the town and persons in the town keep up a correspondence, and get aid in maintaining and managing the library after it is established. It seems to me that commissions should be careful not to keep towns at a distance by adjusting differences respecting location by rule, or by sending lists of books to a town for which selections are to be made, but should try to establish and maintain pleasant relations in the towns. If members of a commission are not at hand, perhaps some other well informed persons may be near from whom advice and assistance can be asked.

Travelling libraries are very useful in stimulating an interest in the establishment of libraries and in supplementing their usefulness. Care should be taken, however, to see to it that such a use is made of them as will not discourage towns from establishing libraries.

A different spirit prevails in different states. The care in use in New York, for instance, in supervising educational matters would be regarded as excessive in Massachusetts. Thus examinations of schools are conducted in New York by the Board of Regents, and public libraries aided by the state are supposed to be carefully looked after and held somewhat in tutelage. Such a system may be perfectly in place in New York, but I feel sure that it would be disliked in Massachusetts. Our towns like to be allowed to manage their own affairs in educational (including library) matters as well as in

other spheres. The same spirit would, I think, resent the enactment of a compulsory law requiring every town to establish a public library or to vote a certain per cent. of the amount raised by taxation for its support. Fortunately compulsion is not needed in Massachusetts. By awakening interest, through correspondence and personal interviews, and by distributing printed matter, so much interest has been awakened since 1890 that, as stated before, only seven towns are now without free public library privileges. Nor is compulsion needed in that state respecting proper maintenance. It has been thought at times by some persons that compulsion in this matter is desirable, but the best opinion is, it seems to me, that voluntarily the towns in Massachusetts are likely to deal generously by their libraries.

That a compulsory law is not needed there (whatever may be the situation in other states) seems to be shown by the commonwealth's experience in regard to common schools.

Mr. C. B. Tillinghast, the state librarian, a gentleman who has for a great many years had an official connection with the board of education, and who is thoroughly conversant with educational matters in the commonwealth, writes me as follows:

"There is a compulsory law relative to the maintenance of schools—each town being required to raise at least three dollars per child between the ages of 5 and 15. There is only *one* town in Massachusetts, Gay Head, populated by Indians, that does not raise more than three dollars. The largest amount raised is \$51.33 1-3 per pupil, and the average for the whole state \$17.87, almost six times what the law requires. It would be as foolish to require towns to appropriate a certain percentage of their wealth for libraries as it would be to require them to do so for schools. I should also fear that it might have a tendency to limit the appropriation to the legal requirement, thereby diminishing the amount that would otherwise be appropriated. I do not believe that any well managed, live library in Massachusetts will suffer for an appropriation."

## HOW TO ORGANIZE STATE LIBRARY COMMISSIONS AND MAKE STATE AID EFFECTIVE.

BY MISS L. E. STEARNS, *Librarian of the Wisconsin Free Library Commission.*

A STATE library commission has been not inaptly described by Mr. Johnson Brigham, state librarian of Iowa, as a Yankee device for bringing together the state, with its ample means and its facilities for getting books cheaply, and the people, with their limited means and their unlimited and illimitable longing for books; that shrewd device for bringing together the people who may, can or must, might, could, would or should read, and the books that should be read.

That such bodies are finding favor with those that have the best interests of libraries at heart is shown by the fact that no less than 13 state library commissions have been organized within the past nine years—such bodies now being found in Massachusetts, which led off in 1890, followed in turn by New Hampshire, Connecticut, Vermont, Wisconsin, Ohio, Georgia, Indiana, Kansas, Minnesota, Colorado, Pennsylvania, and Maine—the six last-named having joined the ranks during the past winter. That each of these state library commissions exemplifies the library missionary spirit of the age may be shown by the fact that it is expressly stipulated in each one of the bills creating such commissions that no member of such body shall receive any compensation for services rendered; indeed, the members of two boards, those of Georgia and Pennsylvania, have been granted the privilege of paying their own travelling expenses.

Any state, no matter how politically depraved may be its legislature, may secure a state library commission when the law-makers are made to realize that the bill is backed by a strong public sentiment, and when a practicable plan is shown of maintaining it at a reasonable expense. A bill carrying with it an appropriation of but a few hundred dollars is generally passed over by the watch-dogs of the treasury. A measure headed "To promote the efficiency of free public libraries" has no attractions for the scalping-knife of such practical politicians as a Croker or a "Hinky Dink," who passively ignore the first, second, and even third readings

of the bill. Their inactivity does not mean, however, that the bill should be introduced and then be allowed to find its own circuitous way through its passage; for such inattention may result in the early burial of the measure in a committee's box, too deep for after-resurrection. In advocating the passage of the measure, strong allies may be found in the various educational associations, such as state federations of women's clubs, teachers' associations, and in personal letters to the legislators from well-known and influential men and women of the state. Sometimes, however, where a state is commission-ridden and has expensive Fish, Forest, Mining, Labor, Dairy and Food commissions, it may be well to proceed quietly and leave the bill in the charge of a wise legislator interested in educational advancement. The greatest care should be exercised in drafting the desired measure. The best features of existing bills may be wisely adopted with modifications to suit local conditions. If it is desired, through the law's provisions, to divorce the state library from political control, the Ohio commission bill may be wisely studied. In states where it is customary to turn all rascals out at intervals of two years, it may be well to fortify the commission by a majority serving ex-officio. In two or three instances, among the library commissions recently created, the state librarian acts as the secretary of the commission. This we do not deem a wise provision, especially where the tenure of office of the state librarian is a brief one, as it would mean a constant interruption in the commission's work. If the state librarian could be appointed by the commission and serve at its pleasure, this part of the difficulty would be remedied. In any event, the sooner the library commission can employ a paid secretary and assistants, who shall devote their entire time to the work, the better for the library movement.

After deciding upon the membership of the commission and its officers, its powers are next to be considered; and right here is where the kind-



ly missionary spirit should be made manifest. "The commission shall give advice and counsel to all free libraries in the state and to all committees which may propose to establish them, and to all persons interested, as to the best means of establishing and administering such libraries, the selection of books, cataloging, and other details of library management. The commission may also send its members to aid in organizing new libraries or improving those already established" — such a provision as the foregoing will show the commission's willingness to aid every library endeavor.

The western and southern states of our land are not yet ready, we believe, to establish libraries through compulsory legislation. The conditions which obtain in the west, as affecting library development, are but little understood in the eastern part of the country. In the west there are whole communities of foreigners who never had the advantages of free libraries in the far-off fatherland, and who, therefore, know nothing, at first hand, of their benefits. Again, towns in the west are still being cut out of the heart of forests, school-houses, churches, and dwellings are being built, water and sewerage improvements made, sidewalks and pavements laid, all causing heavy burdens of taxes and expense. Such reasons as these cause libraries to be regarded in a certain sense as luxuries and not necessities. Any attempt at coercion would be met with fierce antagonism. But oftentimes, undismayed by the taxation bugbear, the library commissioner goes to "Forestville," studies the local conditions, confers with the liberal-spirited and wise-minded, succeeds in getting the village president to appoint a library board of interested men and women under the state library law, whose duty it then becomes to devise ways and means of securing the blessings of a free public library. The proceeds from entertainments, fairs, lectures, suppers, etc., in which all join, go to swell the library fund until the library becomes so essential in promoting the general happiness of the town that the people willingly tax themselves for its support. A library started under such conditions, with untrained and gratuitous service, is not ready to be officially inspected nor marked below grade for the absence of an altogether too expansive system — for its purpose — of classification; but its management warmly wel-

comes and adopts any advice or suggestions when tendered in a kindly way through the medium of a wholly friendly visit from the itinerant commissioner.

And here comes in the question of state aid. Some of the eastern states have adopted the principle of giving a grant of money upon the opening of a free library. In others a few books are given as an incentive to start the ball rolling. Now it is the universal experience that the occasional receipt of new books is the factor, above all others, that sustains the community's interests in a public library. The difficulty in library extension in small villages lies in the fact that the small annual income for a library is eaten up by its running expenses — librarian's salary, fuel, light, and rent — and too little is left to buy semi-annual supplies of fresh books, and a library without such additions soon loses its popularity and support.

In discussing the question of state aid, therefore, might it not be well to devise some method by which the state could assist in sustaining the interest in the library; and how better could it do this than by sending to each of the smaller communities, at regular intervals, a box of fresh literature — not necessarily composed wholly of the latest, but many of the best, that are not usually found on the shelves of village libraries? In other words, might it not be better to invest a lump sum in good books, leaving a margin for late additions, and then, by a wise system of exchange, give an entire state the benefit of each and every book? Would not the knowledge that fresh books were to be received every six months, year after year, serve as a greater incentive to a community in starting a library than to be given \$100 once and for all, or \$50 worth of books outright? This subject will bear the serious and thoughtful consideration of all interested in the growth of libraries in small towns and villages.

It has been our aim to show that the state library commission's first duty lies in the direction of nurturing and fostering the small library; for, as has been rightly said, it is, after all, not the few great libraries but the thousand small ones that may do most for the people. The possibilities in library commission work are infinite. Every commission finds many avenues of labor and each leads to many new ones.

Among the agencies for good may be mentioned: (a) The collection of books and magazines for travelling libraries, the publication of a library bulletin, with helpful articles on the library profession, details of library management, reports of libraries, unbiased reviews of the best books for village libraries, etc., etc. (b) The preparation of articles for the press on the library movement, and the publication of handbooks and circulars of information. (c) A library lecturer to rouse apathetic communities of retired farmers and the like to enthusiasm and subsequent action; to address women's clubs, farmers' institutes, town meetings, business men's leagues, and educational gatherings of every description on the various phases of library endeavor; to give stereopticon lectures on the history of the book, public library buildings, and travelling libraries; in fact, to conduct a perpetual aggressive campaign for more and better libraries. (d) A library instructor to go about visiting libraries, meeting with boards of trustees as a committee of the whole on ways and means; settling vexed points of charging systems and other details of library management so perplexing to the inexperienced; to get the librarians of a single county together, for a little institute or section meeting, elementary in

character, but sometimes similar to state library meetings, from which many are debarred by reason of stress of time, purse, or distance; to conduct a summer school of library science where librarians for a merely nominal fee may learn the best methods gained from the experience of others and, best of all, absorb what has come to be known as "the library spirit." (e) An itinerant circuit rider of to-day, who shall visit the various travelling library stations, such as farmers' homes, logging camps, village post offices, and the like, to counsel with the librarians as to the best management of such libraries. (f) An art director, who shall manage a system of travelling pictures to be distributed in farming communities, school-houses, etc.; to foster a love for the beautiful in communities too poor to purchase works of art for themselves.

All this work is in its infancy, but the outlook for the small library is most hopeful and encouraging. For years, as some one has said, the world has been making great reservoirs of blessings in the great cities; but now, from the fountain-head, the state, there comes a well-spring which sends its contents in little rills to sparkle at the doors of the thirsty who cannot come.

## HOW WOMEN'S CLUBS MAY HELP THE LIBRARY MOVEMENT.

By MISS E. G. BROWNING, *Librarian of the Indianapolis (Ind.) Public Library.*

WHAT women's clubs may do for the library movement, is so fertile a theme that the discussion of it might occupy several hours of this program rather than a few minutes, if all that has been accomplished by them and all that should be done were included in the subject.

In the two weeks allotted me in which to thoroughly investigate the women's clubs and find out what they are doing for the library movement, I followed the approved plan and used all my spare time from my usual duties in writing to many of the different federations, enclosing a list of questions to be answered, intending to append a full, though concise, report to this, made up from their more elaborate replies.

Only one reply was received, evidently from a new secretary, for she wrote that their federa-

tion had had nothing at all to do with getting a library commission for their state. This was discouraging, for the woman who was president of that federation at the time the library commission was created, had herself told me that they had done all the preliminary work for the commission! In the face of these conflicting accounts, and the lack of replies to my other letters of inquiry, I had to abandon all idea of an appendix, and confine my report to the doings of the federated clubs in my own state.

The recent library legislation in Indiana which resulted in the passage of the library commission bill, and marks the beginning of a very different condition of library affairs in our state, was the work of the committee from the Indiana Union of Clubs. This is a federation that does not exclude men's clubs from its membership, but as only 16 out of the 193 clubs that

comprise the federation are men's clubs, and as the work was nearly all done by three women members of the committee, it is safe to give the credit where it belongs—to the women's clubs.

Indiana has been sadly in need of more generous treatment in the direction of her libraries, and her citizens should be grateful to the club women who have succeeded in making such a fair start in the right direction. For years, except for the large towns, Indiana's library laws have been, in a sense, prohibitory rather than of a character to encourage the establishment and maintenance of libraries. Except in cities of over 10,000 inhabitants no town could have a public library unless it first raised \$1000 or its equivalent in books.

For several years during the club season numberless letters have been received at our library asking for assistance in club work, from individuals in different parts of the state where there were no libraries; or from librarians of small libraries asking to borrow books their own libraries did not possess, in order that some patron in dire distress might thereby fulfill her obligation to her club. Of course these requests were always cheerfully complied with to the extent of our ability and consistent with our duties to our own patrons. The point was reached very soon, however, where we were performing, in a small way, the duties of a library commission and carrying on a system of travelling libraries which became burdensome. We soon adopted the plan of complying with the requests, within reason, and at the same time called attention to the poverty stricken condition of Indiana as to its libraries and library laws, the need of a library commission, and the great benefit travelling libraries might be to their sections of the country if we had them; and suggested that they spend some time in awakening the "library spirit" in their part of the state, and, particularly, to urge their representatives to do what they could towards remedying the existing condition of library affairs at the next meeting of the General Assembly. This was a case of turning the tables on them—where the library movement was trying to work upon the club woman. And this was but one of the many forces at work preparing the way for more effective library legislation. At the last session of our General Assembly five bills were passed affecting libraries; it

is of but one of these—the library commission bill—and the work the club women did for it that I wish to speak.

You have probably noticed in the library periodicals recently, where the details of the bill were given, that Indiana has joined the ranks with those states which have library commissions. Our commission is too limited in its scope to allow its members to do their best work at present, but it was a long step in the right direction to get the commission at all, and has opened the door to the possibility of future legislation which will give us more.

In June, 1897, at the eighth annual meeting of the Union of Clubs in discussing the need of legislation that would result in making it possible to elect women on school boards, brought out a stirring talk on the tendency of the times to establish local clubs and reading circles in all phases of society. It was observed that this fostering of a spirit of culture and general desire for a higher education brought with it the absolute need for access to libraries and the systematic use of them. A resolution was offered "That the president of the Union of Clubs appoint a committee of five, of which she should be one, to co-operate with the Library Association of Indiana in framing a law which shall secure to Indiana a library commission, and this committee to report progress at the next annual meeting of the Union of Clubs."

The resolution carried, and the committee was appointed, with Mrs. Elizabeth C. Earl, of Connersville, as chairman, and Miss Merica Hoagland, of Ft. Wayne, as one of its members. The committee was composed of live, energetic members, full of the sort of enthusiasm that never tires, never merits defeat, and rarely meets with it. The chairman and other members of the committee visited libraries, attended library association meetings, and wrote to those posted on the subject, until they were well up in three things: What they knew they wanted, and thought the state ought to give them; what they thought the joint committees from the Union of Clubs and Library Association might endorse, and what they hoped the General Assembly might grant. The first included a practically unlimited income—which they knew they would never get. The second included more good points than the General Assembly could be expected to grant; and the last made a bold stand for a library

commission, travelling libraries, and the right of citizens to vote to establish township libraries.

In the report of the committee to the Union of Clubs at the convention of 1898, these three special points, with others of importance, but perhaps of less value than those just named, were offered as the result of the committee's work, and to form a basis upon which to draft a bill. This report was adopted as presented, and the same committee was continued, with instructions to draft the bill along the lines laid down in the report, and get it before the next General Assembly—which would meet during the following winter.

Thereupon began six months of hard labor on the part of the committee and its friends—but it devolved chiefly on the committee, and largely upon its chairman. They wrote to the clubs and sent copies of the report to their secretaries, explaining the bill that was to be presented to the General Assembly, and asking each club in the federation to see to it that a strong committee was appointed to instruct their representatives as to their wishes in this matter as soon as they were elected; and, even before the election, to talk to the candidates, and if possible to get pledges beforehand making the library commission bill a local issue. Immediately after election, before they had time to forget that this was the same bill they had just heard about, the club committee sent them letters covering practically the same grounds, and asking their support. The county newspapers were besieged in the same manner, and club women who were known to be good workers were written to personally and their services enlisted in the good cause.

But after all this hard work, when one would suppose the entire Legislature was thoroughly acquainted with the wishes of a fair proportion of its constituency, the real effort for the bill had to be made before the committees to which it had been referred by the House and Senate.

If one were to attempt to cite half the discouragements and misrepresentations the club committee had to combat before the desired legislation was secured, they would seem greatly exaggerated. There were several serious

counts against the Union of Clubs in the campaign against the library commission. One of these was, that the Union of Clubs was merely a catspaw for a very powerful book firm which was using the federation to get a bill passed establishing travelling and township libraries in order that it—the book firm—might reap the benefit. This sounds like a hoax, but it would be a difficult matter to convince a number of people that the club women could be disinterested enough to take so much time in which to work up a sentiment in favor of a bill that would benefit the people of the whole state, and not be working in the interest of some commercial enterprise. Human nature is not geographically bounded. People who live narrow, uneventful lives, are everywhere likely to have the common characteristic of a suspicious nature. But the club women of Indiana can afford to be magnanimous and forgive them—for they have accomplished what they undertook, and we have our library commission.

I have gone into detail in describing the methods of the club committee because, when this work was first started, it seemed almost impossible to find anybody who could, from experience, advise just what or how to do; and simple and easy as it all sounds, the committee was obliged to work out its own plans and methods before it could go ahead. If their experience will be of assistance to others, I am sure it will be freely given when asked for. In conclusion, I want to offer a suggestion of a work that may be done in any state. Why could not the federated clubs in states where the library commission is weak in funds, or does not exist at all, take up the work of travelling libraries in a small way? If each club in the federation should gather up books and magazines, equip at least one travelling library and maintain it, turning it over to the commission, if there be one, for systematic distribution with the others; if they should do this, what a help it would be, both to the commission and the people. The Library Commission could furnish to the clubs or organizations, lists of books desired, and thus avoid the accumulation of out-of-date or unsuitable books, and also of unnecessary duplicates,

## HOW TO PLAN A LIBRARY BUILDING.

By H. M. UTLEY, *Librarian of the Detroit (Mich.) Public Library.*

THE suggestions here set down are intended for the benefit of a fairly prosperous and conservative community of 1000 or 2000 inhabitants or upwards. It is not necessary to say that any one who chooses to rear a monument to himself in the place of his nativity, in the shape of a library building, with his name cut in marble over the front door, is privileged to spend as much money on it as he may choose. If a town with plenty of means, public spirit, and good taste, decides to do something conspicuous in the way of a library building, that is one thing. But if a town, appreciating the value of a free public library, maintains one at some sacrifice, and thinks on the whole such library ought to be under its own roof, it naturally wants to get the most for its money. These remarks are designed to help out the latter.

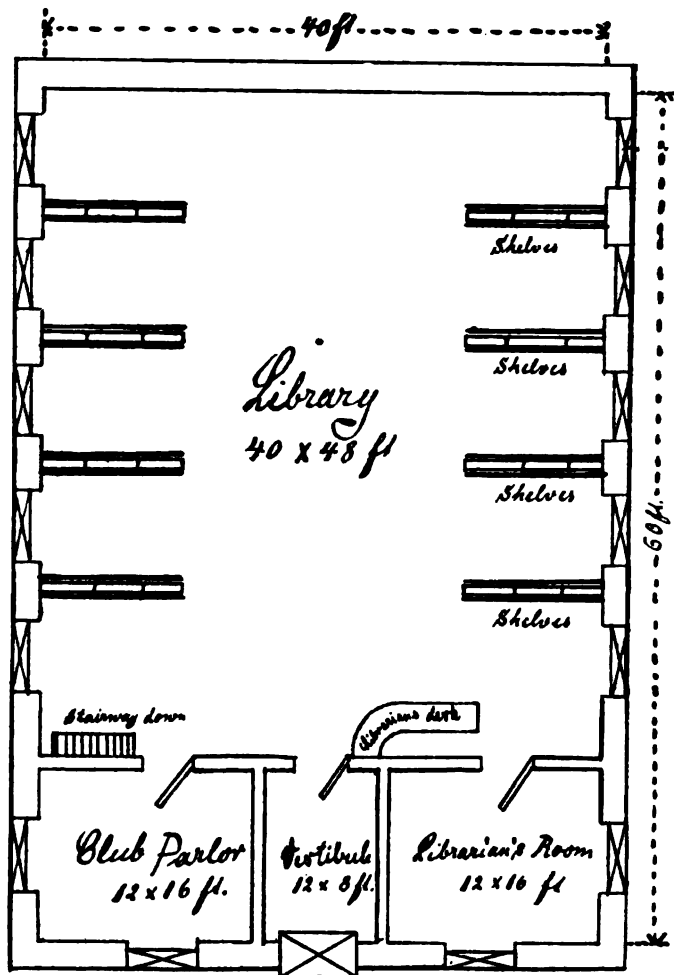
The lot should be 100 feet wide and of abundant depth. If located on a street corner, 20 feet less in width will answer. Place the building midway on the lot, and this will leave plenty of space on each side for light and circulation of air. The dimensions of the building to be 40 feet front by 60 feet in depth and one story high. Excavate under the front 40 feet of the building and carry the basement walls up four clear feet above the grade of the lot. The basement will provide space for heating apparatus, fuel storage, closets, and miscellaneous storage. There will be an outside entrance to this at the side of the building and an inside entrance from the library room. The only entrance to the library will be at the centre of the front through a vestibule 12 feet in depth and 8 feet wide.

As the building is low at best, it is desirable to avoid a squat appearance. This may be done as to the sides by a suggestion of the French roof, or dormer window relief of the roof line. The front may, perhaps, be relieved by a pretty porch. Any architect will be able to devise methods of giving the structure a pleasing effect without adding to its cost.

A partition across the building 12 feet from the front wall will leave a space to be divided as

follows: 8 feet in the middle for a vestibule and the remaining 16 feet on each side, forming two rooms, each 12 by 16, will open into the library. One will serve for an office for the librarian and the other for a club parlor, children's room, or any other desirable purpose. The remainder of the building will be a single room 48 feet long by 40 feet wide and 16 feet high. There will be five windows in each side opposite each other, each  $4\frac{1}{2}$  feet opening in the clear. The window sills will be 5 feet from the floor and the windows will extend to the ceiling. This arrangement will afford abundant natural light to all parts of the room. The room will be open in the centre and divided into alcoves at the sides, by the bookcases, which will be four in number on each side and stand at right angles to the wall between the windows. There will also be bookcases against the wall under the windows. The projecting bookcases will be divided into three sections of 3 feet each, and will be double cases, having shelves 8 inches wide on each side. They will be 7 feet high. The space above the cases will be left open, but may eventually be used for a gallery and a second tier of bookcases if desired. The end wall may be utilized for bookcases throughout its entire extent. The shelving capacity of such a bookcase arrangement as described would be fully 10,000 volumes. If enlargement becomes necessary, the end wall may be torn out and the length of the building extended as far as desirable.

The bookcases will project into the room 10 feet on each side; this will leave 20 feet clear space in the middle of the room for its whole length in which can be placed reading tables for periodicals, etc. The alcoves between the bookcases are each 8 feet in the clear, and this affords room for a small table at which two persons could sit without interfering with approach to the book shelves. This arrangement throws all the book shelves open for free access by the public. If it is desirable to protect specially valuable books, they may be placed in cases fitted with glass doors which can be kept locked.



The librarian's desk is placed adjacent to the librarian's office and cataloging room, and immediately beside the exit and entrance. This is convenient for people coming in to return books and for those going out to have books charged. This arrangement affords economical administration. One librarian can take care of the room, having complete view of every part of it, except the recesses of the rear alcoves. If desirable, these can be brought into view by a combination of mirrors. In a small place such as this library is designed to serve, most of the people will be personally known to the librarian. They may be safely trusted to go directly to the shelves to make their selection of books. Probably also they could be trusted to replace

their books properly when returning them, in which case the librarian would be relieved of much labor. With the people thus waiting upon themselves, the expense of employing library attendants would be reduced to a minimum.

The dry-goods-box shape of the building is the most economical form of construction that is possible. The cost of material and construction varies in different localities and at different times. Probably such a building could have been erected a year ago at less cost than to-day. I have submitted the forgoing details to an architect and requested from him an estimate of cost of erection and furnishing of such a building in Detroit in the spring of 1899. He as-

sure me that the building could be built with limestone foundation, cut stone sills, brick walls, roof of redwood shingles, interior, including bookcases, finished with Georgia pine, quartered oak desk, tables and chairs, all material and workmanship to be of the first-class, for \$3500 to \$4000. This was about my own estimate, but mine was based upon knowledge of the Jonathan Hall Memorial Library, erected at Ridgeway, Lenawee County, Southern Michigan, in 1887. This latter building cost \$3500 complete and furnished, the interior finish and bookcases being of butternut. It has not the capacity of the one I have described; but, to offset that one must bear in mind that building construction cost much more in 1887 than now, and that this library is not of the plain rectangular shape of the one above outlined.

It is certainly desirable to get a library out of rented quarters just as soon as possible. The place usually chosen for such purposes is in a down-town business block, over a store and perhaps in an office building or theatre. In such a location it is peculiarly exposed to danger from fire. Quarters of this kind are sure to be dark and dingy, utterly without ventilation of any kind, inconveniently arranged, and about as ill-adapted to the purpose as they could be made. Is it not question of economy and good sense for any town which has a library in rented quarters to place the same under its own roof at the earliest opportunity?

There are many advantages in the style of building here suggested. There are no stairs to climb. Everything is on the ground floor. The whole library is in one room and is conveniently arranged so that the people may go directly to the shelves and select the books which best please them. There is abundance of light and fresh air. The fewest possible number of library employees is required under such an arrangement, and so there is economy of administration. The pride which the people of a town will naturally feel in having a library building of their own will be an incentive to them to use it freely. And, lastly, the cost of a building planned on the lines here suggested places it within the reach of almost every community.

Usually land is cheap in villages and small cities. It is not necessary to settle upon the exact geographical centre. The library needs to be no more centrally located than the school-house. Under some circumstances there may be an advantage in placing the two temples of learning near each other. In any case the cost of lot would not cut much of a figure. There can be generally found some public spirited person or persons who individually or collectively will provide the necessary ground. With a little judicious agitation of the subject the taxpayers can be brought to agree that if it is worth while for the town to maintain a free public library, it is surely wise and economical to place it in a home of its own.

## HOW TO MAKE A LIBRARY ATTRACTIVE.

BY CAROLINE M. HEWINS, *Librarian of the Hartford (Cx.) Public Library.*

**I**N one of the old streets of a Northern city stands a brownstone building on whose front the sun never shines. There is no noise in its halls, and no clatter of children's feet on its staircase. On the second floor a door opens into a long, alcoved room, where the sunshine pours in through large-paned windows which look out upon an historic burying-ground that in early May is fragrant with pale-hued hyacinths and gay with tulips burning against the old headstones. The books, which number at least 300,000, are to be freely handled by all readers who are fortunate enough to own, or once in a while to hire, the share, which as the saying goes, is the patent of nobility for the

city. Across the graveyard is a busy street, but all sounds of labor and hurry are hushed. The tables have green baize covers, the ink-stands are as old-fashioned as they were fifty years ago. Over the room brood the peace and tranquillity that scholars love. The library, without trying to attract readers, is simply, by living out its own conditions and being itself, a most delightful place for a student or a lover of books. It has modern devices in the card-catalog, but does not obtrude them. Its readers are of the most scholarly class of a city proud of its families of scholars.

This is the highest development of a library for authors and readers who have leisure to

browse in books. The shelves are free to them, and they are shut out from a busy, bustling world. It is not a workingman's library, and one rarely sees a child there; but a library like this, or the old Philadelphia Library, the Society Library in New York, the Providence Athenæum or the Redwood Library in Newport, plays an important part in keeping up the atmosphere of elegant and scholarly leisure, which is fast departing from public libraries.

A student, although he may go to the business-like loan-room of a great city public library for his contemporary authorities or six-text Chaucer, prefers to ask for them where he does not meet the unwashed public, or hear requests for Captain King and Anthony Hope's latest stories, "David Harum," "Four years in the Philippines," or "The sinking of the *Merrimac*." Nevertheless, the hushed monastic air of a library used for study oppresses, chills and awes an ignorant reader, and finally drives him away.

I knew a library in a country town which was supported for several years by the generous gifts of two sisters, one of whom was the librarian. They took a little old house that had at one time been a blacksmith's shop left it on the outside as they found it, with gambrel roof and half-worn red paint, and freshened up the inside with matting, tinted walls, simple shelves, about 1200 books, open fireplaces, reading-tables, one low enough for children, and a cupboard with dolls and tea sets for the very little folks to amuse themselves with while their older brothers and sisters read. But alas! the little library one day outgrew its quarters and is now in a larger room in the Town Hall, where it has no longer its picturesque individuality.

I know another in a low-ceiled room that was once one of the schoolrooms of a country academy. There are two or three thousand books around the walls, and on the afternoon when it was opened, with tea and cake and sweet-faced girls in pretty gowns, it certainly had so pleasant and cordial an air that every one felt welcome and at home.

We have talked over making a library attractive in our staff meetings and "surely more than half to the damsel(s) doth belong." The suggestions formulated with their help are these:

You are going to open a free library in a town

or village where the reading habit has not been established. I was asked to say nothing about making a library attractive to children, and will only suggest that *Public Libraries*, now in its fourth volume, is full of useful hints and suggestions for work with them and with schools. You have to attract the young men and women, perhaps the older men and women, many of whom have minds that have stopped growing.

The conditions of library work in some states to-day are the same as they were in Connecticut 25 years ago. There were no free circulating libraries supported by cities and towns, and the subscription libraries were in many cases leading a struggling existence. I have a library in mind up a long, dark stairway. The room was full of sunshine when one got into it, but the approach was not pleasant. A new brief dictionary catalog had just been printed without notes or guidance. There was no class-list for the use of the public, and no one was allowed to go to the shelves. The long stairs and high alcoves made many unnecessary steps. There was no money for cleaning and dusting. New books were bought to some extent, but there was not much care in choosing them, and no effort at all had been made to bring the library into touch with the every-day life of home and school. The first step was to meet readers half-way and ask them if they had seen certain new books, and the second, for the librarian to be in evidence as much as possible at the charging-desk and counter. A small red rocking-chair, a bright-colored rug, and a student-lamp gave a touch of homelikeness to the place. It was about this time that the wave of women's clubs rolled into the city, and the library established a close connection with them, and began some work in the schools, of which this is neither the time nor the place to speak. The library's fortunes varied, but it kept its head above water, and by-and-bye, when it offered itself to the city it had established itself on such a basis that all classes and conditions were ready to use it.

If possible, get a room on the ground floor. A long flight of stairs has lessened the usefulness of many a library. Use it for a library and nothing else. A corner of a hall may be cheap, but it is not attractive. I have known libraries in rooms eight by twelve that did good work and brought all the neighborhood to their



shelves, but a larger room is better. There are two or three libraries that I have in mind in rooms once used for country stores, large enough for growth and light enough for reading. Have two or three tables to begin with, plain pine tables are good enough, and reasonably comfortable chairs, some of them lower than the others. Subscribe for half a dozen magazines and papers at a dollar a year, like *McClure*, *Munsey*, *Cosmopolitan*, *The Puritan*, *The Ladies' Home Journal*, and the *Youth's Companion*, that is more for grown-up young people than for children. If you have a little more money, put it into the more expensive illustrated magazines or *Harper's Weekly*, *Frank Leslie*, and the *Illustrated American*. Do not try at first to get the heavier magazines like the *Forum* or *North American Review*. We are all children in our liking for pictures. I have a friend, a clergyman's wife in Montana, who says that she feels proud and happy when she can persuade her people to read the *Ladies' Home Journal*.

You will have old volumes given you from the attics of the neighborhood — brown-covered Popes and Miltons, perhaps, or a set of Dick's works. They have their places — on the shelves, but they will stay there for a while.

Your first year's money should be spent for books on subjects that will be read. This year, for example, I should spend as much as possible for books on the late war, even if I did not buy another volume of history. A hundred dollars should give you 40 good novels, 30 children's books, and 30 volumes of war history, travel, electricity, house building, and a few good biographies, with a book or two of reference like Brewer's "Dictionary of phrase and fable" or Bartlett's "Familiar quotations."

Scholars and students must wait. You cannot yet afford to buy a book that only two or three of your readers will ever call for.

Your shelves will perhaps be of the plainest and roughest, but let your readers go to them. Soap, water, sunshine in winter, shade in summer, and a few flowering plants or the wild flowers as they come, with their names neatly printed, go far towards making any room attractive.

One western library has a rest-room for farmers' wives. If I were opening a new town library I should send letters to the ministers of the little outlying churches asking them to speak of the library to their parishioners and

invite them to come in and rest when they are in town. You sometimes get your best readers from lonely farmhouses.

Pictures play a large part in the attractiveness of the modern library. From the great Hegger photographs at \$20 or \$30 each which the New York State Library circulates, to the Perry pictures at one cent, and the mounted illustrations from newspapers, there is ample room for choice. The danger nowadays in library and school room is not in having too few pictures, but in making your walls spotty with cheap and ill-chosen chromos and poor half-tones. *Birds*, at two dollars a year, has an extra set of plates which may be ordered and mounted. If your village has the beginning of an art club it will find illustrations from the old masters in *Harper's Bazar*. Portraits of authors may be mounted and kept in alphabetical order to illustrate titles of books.

Sometimes women who never read anything for themselves employ a clever woman to condense current novels or read short stories while they work. I have never heard of this being done in a library, but I think it perfectly practicable. Let the librarian put up a notice in the library that on a certain afternoon she will read a story, and invite women to come in and hear it, to bring their work and perhaps their own chairs. Let her read without comment or subtle analysis of plot, simply for the story. If possible, let her show a picture of the author and read or tell something about him or her. One strong hold that a library has is as a help in festivals and amusements. Even where church lines are hard and fast all sects will work together for an entertainment for the benefit of the library. Before holidays — Fourth of July, Hallowe'en, Christmas — the library can show all its resources, suggest new games, or devise costumes. It is a common saying that everything that one has ever learned in one's life is of use in a library, but there is nothing which a librarian can turn more to account than some experience in private theatricals and suggesting stage costumes made out of simple material, or plays and dialogues that are bright and amusing without being coarse and silly.

In order to make a library attractive you must convince your townsfolk that there is something in it on every subject that any one wishes to know something about. The *Tribune* and the *World* almanacs at 25 cents each are

worth much more than their price. Is some good woman consumed with the desire to know the names and ages of all Queen Victoria's grandchildren? Let her turn to the *World almanac*, and there they are with all their mouth-filling names. Is there a dispute on the time made by a trotting horse? It is recorded in the same useful book. So are the statistics of the Salvation Army, the names of the Forty Immortals of the French Academy, and the latest improvements in electricity. Do you wish to know something of labor laws? You will find them in both. "The *American Agriculturist year-book*," too, is much more than a farmer's manual, for it tells of our new possessions and gives hints on the investment of property and lessons in swimming, gymnastics, and the deaf and dumb alphabet. It is free to subscribers for the paper, and otherwise costs 50 cents. A dollar a year for these three almanacs will answer many questions in libraries which cannot afford large and costly encyclopedias.

One of our Connecticut librarians tells a story about a rich man who had no interest in the public library, until one day his coachman appeared in breathless haste, to see if there was a book in it that would help him to find out what was the matter with a favorite Jersey cow. The book was given him, the cow recovered from her illness, and her master has ever since been the fast friend of the library.

Reading is in the eyes of many persons a luxury — a sinful luxury except after sunset and on Sunday afternoons — and to others a means of passing time of which they have never thought. To bring books into every-day life is the pleasure of the country librarian. There may be years before a library comes into the hearts and lives of the people, when the circulation is small and the librarian has hours and half-hours on hot or rainy days when no footsteps disturb the silence of her bookroom. This is the time for learning the inside of her books, for picking up stray bits of information that will help her by-and-bye. Does somebody come to her to find out if there is any foundation in fact for the story of Mowgli's life in the jungle? By that strange inner vision of her sub-conscious self that is sometimes near to clairvoyance, she sees a page of Littell's *Living Age*, or another of an old volume of *Harper's Magazine* with a short article on children reared by wolves in India. Does some one else read Frederic Stimson's most touching tale of Mrs. Knollys, the young Eng-

lish bride whose husband fell down a crevasse in Switzerland, and who, learning from a scientist the rate of speed of a glacier, went back to Switzerland 40 years afterward, and, a white-haired woman, recovered the frozen body of the lover of her youth just as she had seen him last? It is the same useful Littell that tells you a similar case. The librarian who reads is *not* lost, popular evidence to the contrary notwithstanding, and one secret of the library which the public likes to consult is the librarian's power to remember and produce when needed little out-of-the-way bits of information of no great value in themselves, that have come from the habit of running over books. By-and-bye when the library grows, and the librarian has a larger salary and a staff to manage and a thousand matters to attend to that did not exist in the old peaceful sleepy days, she will have no time to browse; therefore, let her make the most of her pasture while she can. Her food at odd times may be "Uncle Silas" or "The house on the marsh" in the middle of a thunder storm, or Lecky's "History of European morals" on a day when everybody in town but herself has gone to the circus, but she can find in each and all of them something to remember and use at some future day.

It will be soon known that the library is ready to help anybody find out anything, so far as its resources will allow. After confidence is established, when the young men come to you for the form of a letter of congratulation or an after-dinner speech, the young mothers for an invitation for a child's party, the girls for patterns for embroidery, the boys for suggestions about which college is the best to go to, the elderly maidens for advice on the care of their parrots and to ask if Angora kittens should have bushy tails at a week old, the farmers on the culture of frogs for the market or the raising of mushrooms, and the ministers on the latest statistics of missions in China, you may feel that your library is truly attractive, and that it makes little difference whether it is classified or card-cataloged just like a library in Chicago or Boston. By-and-bye, when it has outgrown you and you are not quite sure what to do with it, will be time to send for a library school student or graduate. Meanwhile, it is your business to know the inside of your books well, and to keep up with what information you can get so well that you can help your readers. The rest will take care of itself in good time.

## ON THE VALUE OF HOME AND PRISON LIBRARIES.

BY HERVEY WHITE, *John Crerar Library, Chicago.*

IF we glance at the books upon our shelves, comparing the ones of this year with those of 30, 20, or even 10 years ago, we are struck at once with the enormous change that has come into them in regard to their manner of speaking of other classes of society than that of the book writers themselves. What a marvellous interest the world is beginning to take in every one else! Not so much in individuals, in their personal gossip and welfare — that has always been common — but an interest in humanity as a mass, in its welfare and tendencies and possibilities; most of all in the classes that have been styled by the old books, "lower," the workers, the poor and the dependent, the criminals even, and the defective. Verily the sympathies of men are expanding. Not necessarily becoming more deeply sympathetic, but touched with a wider and more general sympathy always. Men and women are looking outside of their tribes and their races. Their social conscience is being born, begotten by universal education.

All of the professions are affected by this change; they themselves are a part of the change. The preacher now must be informed first of all upon the labor question. It is more important than his theology. The physician must turn to sanitation and questions of public health. The *littérateur* and the artist are familiar with the lives of the poor. The teacher has become almost a missionary, and the librarian will not be behind, but will make his storehouse of learning a social force in the community, no longer waiting for the specialist to come in and seek out his treasures, but actively going forth to bring in the multitudes and feed them; not even being contented with that, for when the multitudes do not come he will carry choice morsels to them and literally force these upon him.

Home and prison libraries are a small part of this forcing machinery. It is the attempt of this paper to show something of their workings in Chicago, but chiefly, for it seems much more important, to try to appreciate in a measure the value of this work to the librarian, keeping him abreast with members of the other profes-

sions, giving him intelligence as a citizen and freedom of expression as an individual.

It is, perhaps, the greatest aim of books to enable people to do without reading, to teach them to look at life for themselves and read their print in the faces of people, in their conversation and habits and longings. The place for beginning this human reading is among the working people and the poor, whose lives are still simple and genuine, who are not conventionalized and fossilized in education and society; not in the dogmas of the idle and the respectable who talk from the book reviews and art criticisms of the papers, who have natural feelings, no doubt, but spend the great part of their lives in schooling themselves into concealing them.

What advantages, then, a great city offers for study if one approaches it in the guise of a home librarian. Let us imagine a case and follow it, making it typical from experience.

Miss Smith has worked in a library at the dusty routine of cataloging for some five or six years. She earns a good living; has managed a short trip to Europe; helps support her mother, and has a small circle of friends. She wearies of them oftentimes, to be sure. They seem to say the same things over week after week; they weary of her, too, no doubt; perhaps she has little better to offer, cataloging not being very inspiring for conversation in the evening. Finally she is induced to take charge of a home library. She wants to do something for the poor, and an enthusiastic sister librarian has persuaded her.

She is given a neat little case containing 20 carefully selected children's books and is told to place it in a home in a poor neighborhood in the city. She is to form a reading circle of 10 children and visit them every Saturday evening. It does not seem a momentous undertaking, but it stirs her more than anything has ever done since Europe.

On Saturday evening she calls at the given address, the books having been sent on before. She enters a dark alley expecting every moment to be murdered, and climbs the narrow stairway of the rear tenement house, asking tremu-

lously for Mrs. Johnson, who is somebody's washerwoman, she has been told. Mrs. Johnson herself is at the door. The family is just finishing supper. Yes, they were expecting the lady. The children are wide-eyed with wonder, and the work of organization begins. The circle of 10 is soon completed. It is so easy for the children to run out for their friends. There is hardly time for Miss Smith to look about the poverty-stricken cleanness. They elect a child librarian, adopt rules for the circulation of books, and each draws out one of the wonderful bright covers. There is even time for Miss Smith to read them a chapter from a fairy tale, and they all troop off in a body to escort her to the car at nine o'clock. This is the beginning of the Saturday meetings. Miss Smith is looking forward to them every week.

By the time the winter is over a great many things have been done. Games have been brought in and sewing for the girls and whittling for the boys. They have established a penny savings bank, too, and have a collection of pictures mounted on cardboard for circulation like the books. They are making window gardens in the spring and planning a picnic to the park. Miss Smith has found time to call on the children's parents and now knows all their lives quite intimately, more intimately than with many of her old friends. She is surprised to think how much she has helped them, and how thankful they are for her friendship. She has seemed to give so little effort, and yet there are results never dreamed of: advice about the management of some bad boy, persuading another into school, listening to long tales of hardship, and giving a sturdy word of courage. She has helped some young girl trim her hat, has given advice to a mother about buying. Even the men look on her kindly. She is richer by ten lives than she was.

The next year the character of the work changes. Miss Smith has herself become an organizer, and is persuading new visitors to take circles. She is collecting books now, too, going into the homes of the rich and gaining new romance from them. How many nice people there are who will help if they can only be told how to do it. There is the beginning of acquaintance, too, with the people of the social settlements of the neighborhoods. How interesting these enthusiastic workers are! The

world is opening up with a wealth of acquaintance. The former friends of Miss Smith complain now that they see so little of her. She has become their most interesting acquaintance. She is reading books again now, the books that before this she only cataloged. She is reading with understanding and knowledge. What a fascination the study of sociology has!

Let us suppose another case. Mr. Jones is also in a library. He is the assistant librarian. He spends his life in ordering books, books for other people to read. Mr. Jones has read some of the books, too. He is a thoughtful student in ethics, and has found sociology hopeless. He is even getting tired of ethics, and takes it only in problem novels. Ordering books is grinding routine work. Mr. Jones is growing gray and dusty, sometimes thinking of consulting a physician.

Some one interests him in a prison library. The jail has no library at all. The prisoners sit brooding in their cells. Some judge has spoken at a library club urging the needs of these prisoners. The club members have promised books for a library, they have even promised some money. Library clubs promise very easily. Sometimes they forget the trifle of paying. They say that Mr. Jones must be the librarian, and just for the sake of the experience he promises.

He visits the jail next day, but does not receive hearty welcome. "A library?" questions the jailer. "Oh, yes, several people have tried that before, some Sunday schools and three women's clubs. However, the prisoners do need some reading material." Gradually Mr. Jones works his way into the graces of the jailer. He will come three mornings every week and hand out books to the prisoners. He has arranged to do night duty at the library. It is better anyway than society.

How interesting criminals are. Mr. Jones had never imagined them so intelligent. In time he is permitted to visit them in their cells. It is necessary to consult them about the books. A prisoner sits so long thinking that he has often something interesting to say. Moreover, there is the excitement of his trial. Will he win? or will the lawyers on the other side win? It is not so much a question of whether he did wrong that is on his mind, it is whether he will escape without punishment. Gradually Mr. Jones brings in his ethics. Yes, the prisoner

will justify himself. The discussion often ends in confession. The prisoner has been longing for a friend, some one with whom to talk it all over: some one neither relative nor lawyer.

The interest in ethics grows. Mr. Jones soon has a prisoner to attend to the routine of book circulation and now has established a Sunday class where he talks to a small group of men in the surgeon's room, and together they have a discussion. They read about Jean Valjean and are never weary of talking of his struggles. Mr. Jones has only the best of literature in his library, fiction, and history and travels, some poetry and a few text-books of science. He is surprised to find how many of the men are fond of the best things; criminals are not altogether criminal, often they are very good fellows, only a little streak in them is wrong. Mr. Jones tries to crowd the little streak out. He is not an eloquent talker, but sometimes a little thoughtful silence is convincing. At all events Mr. Jones has enlivened his ethics. His life has been lightened by half. He walks about

like a king in the prison, and all the doors open before him. He is welcomed also by the men. They like the fellow who is not in to make money, though they do not wholly understand him. Altogether the prison library is a success, at least so far as Mr. Jones is concerned.

Let us turn to ourselves for a moment to ask ourselves just three questions and then stop to be thinking the answers.

First, are we good modern librarians if we do not assist in some work of helping our books into the hands of those who do not possess them or perhaps even know of their value?

Second, are we good citizens when in spite of our knowledge and our books we are almost wholly ignorant of the social conditions of the larger class of our population and have no knowledge at all of our prisons and other public institutions?

And third, and most important of all, are we good as men and as women if we do not give to those who have less than we—perhaps, because they work harder?

## CO-OPERATIVE LISTS OF PERIODICALS AND TRANSACTIONS OF SOCIETIES.

BY CLEMENT W. ANDREWS, *Librarian John Crerar Library, Chicago.*

FOR the accompanying interesting bibliography of these co-operative lists of serials I am indebted to the kindness of Mr. A. G. S. Josephson, cataloger of the John Crerar Library. Without claiming completeness, still it shows 20 such publications, of which three have appeared in second editions, making a total of 23 entries. As in other lines of library work we find Italy the pioneer, and the earliest publication is that of the Royal Institute of Lombardy and other public establishments of Milan in 1864. Then after a long interval the others follow in chronological order.

### BIBLIOGRAPHY OF UNION LISTS OF PERIODICALS.

1864.

Elenco delle pubblicazioni periodiche che trovansi presso il R. Istituto Lombardo di Scienze e Lettere e altri pubblici stabilimenti di Milano. Milano 1864.

Quoted by V. & Ch. Mortet in their article, "Des catalogues collectifs ou communs à plusieurs bibliothèques," in *Revue Internationale des bibliothèques* 1895-1896,

1880.

University of California. Library bulletin no. 1: Supplement to the report of the Board of Regents. Sacramento 1880. 29 p. O.

With half-title: University of California. Library memoranda, No. 1.

Contains: "List of periodical literature in the following libraries. . . . Alphabetical list of periodicals in nine libraries in San Francisco, Sacramento, Berkeley, and Oakland. Gives short titles and occasional dates.

1881.

Catalogues des ouvrages périodiques que reçoivent les principales bibliothèques de Belgique, avec l'indication des institutions où se trouvent ces ouvrages. Bruxelles 1881.

Alphabetical list with systematic and other indexes. Described by V. & Ch. Mortet.

1882.

Smithsonian miscellaneous collections. A catalogue of scientific and technical periodicals, 1665-1882, together with chronological tables and a library checklist; by Henry Carrington Bolton. Washington: Published by the Smithsonian Institution. 1885. x, 773 p. O.

Vol. 29 of *Smithsonian miscellaneous collections*; also No. 514 of the publications of the Smithsonian Institution.

Alphabetical list of 8603 periodicals. Does not in-

- clude, as a rule, publications of societies. The library list checks the periodicals in 127 libraries. Gives full titles and collations.
1884.  
Elenco delle pubblicazioni periodiche ricevute dalle biblioteche pubbliche governative d'Italia nel 1884. Roma 1885. xxii. 316 p. O.  
Vol. 1 of *Indici e cataloghi*, issued by the Ministero della Pubblica Istruzione.  
Alphabetical list of 1800 periodicals in 26 libraries. Gives full title, editor, place, publisher and date of last volume issued. With classified index, list of publishing societies arranged by countries and cities, and index of authors and editors.
1884.  
Lijst van vervolgwerken aanwezig in de Universiteits Bibliotheek en in andere openbare bibliotheken van Amsterdam. 1884.  
A list of books in course of publication. Quoted by V. & Ch. Mortet.
1887.  
New York Library Club. Union list of periodicals currently received by the New York and Brooklyn libraries. Edited at Columbia College Library. New York 1887. 58 p. O.  
Alphabetical list of periodicals in 41 libraries. Gives place, frequency of publication and date of first volume in any library.
- Uebersicht der Bestände an Zeitschriften in den Hauptbüchersammlungen der höheren Schulen in Pommern. In *Auftrage des Königl. Provinzial-Schulkollegiums zu Stettin zusammengestellt von Ludwig Streit*. Colberg 1887. 33, [1], p. O.  
Published as a "Programm" from the K. Domgymnasium und Realgymnasium in Colberg. Classified list of periodicals in 21 libraries. Described by V. & Ch. Mortet.
- A list of the periodicals in the libraries of the various departments of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology. April 1887. Compiled by Clement W. Andrews, A.M. 8 p. O. n. t. p.  
Alphabetical list, giving titles, place, and dates.
1890.  
List of periodical publications accessible to the students of the University of Nebraska. In *The Hesperian*, vol. 19, No. 16, p. 8-11, June 1, 1890.  
Contains about 300 titles of periodicals in the libraries of the University of Nebraska, Nebraska Historical Society, and of the different professors at the University.
1892.  
University of California. Library bulletin no. 1. (Second edition.) Co-operative list of periodical literature (Supplement to the Secretary's report to the Board of Regents, 1892.) Berkeley, California, 1892. 54 p. O.  
Alphabetical list of the periodicals in 12 libraries. Gives short titles, place, and in some cases, dates.
- 1893  
Massachusetts Institute of Technology. A list of the periodicals and society publications in the libraries of the Institute, compiled by Clement W. Andrews, A.M., librarian. 2d ed. May, 1893. Cambridge 1893. 19 p. O.  
Alphabetical list, giving titles, place and inclusive dates. A typewritten supplement was issued in 1895.
- Revue semestrielle des publications mathématiques, rédigée sous les auspices de la Société Mathématique d'Amsterdam. Tome 1 + Amsterdam 1893+.  
This is an index to articles in mathematical periodicals and transactions, with a geographical index of publications indexed, wherein those that are taken by Dutch libraries are indicated.
1895.  
A catalogue of scientific and technical periodicals, 1665-1895; together with chronological tables and a library checklist; by Henry Carrington Bolton. 2d ed. City of Washington: published by the Smithsonian Institution, 1897. 1247 p. O.  
Vol. 40 of *Smithsonian miscellaneous collections*. Also numbered as 1093 of the publications of the Smithsonian Institution. "Part 1 of the alphabetical catalog is a reprint from the plates of the first edition, after having made the changes necessary to bring the titles down to date. Part 2 contains additions to the titles of Part 1 that could not be inserted in the plates, together with about 3600 new titles."—*Preface*. Lists in all 8603 publications in 113 libraries. Has also a classified index.
1896.  
A list of scientific medical journals in public and private libraries of Baltimore. Compiled by Miss E. S. Thies. In *Bulletin of the Johns Hopkins Hospital*, vol. VII., no. 62-63, p. 114-128. 1896.  
Alphabetical list with short titles and dates.
1897.  
A list of periodicals, newspapers, transactions, and other serial publications currently received in the principal libraries of Boston and vicinity. Boston, The Trustees of the Public Library. 1897. [4.] 143 p. Q.  
Alphabetical list of periodicals in 36 libraries, giving short titles, place, but no dates. Has an alphabetical subject index.
- Richter. Verzeichniss der im J. 1897 noch im Erscheinen begriffenen Zeitschriften, welche in d. K. öff. Bibliothek und in den Handbibliotheken d. K. Sammlungen vorhanden sind. Dresden 1897.  
Lists 1447 periodicals in 10 libraries: quoted by Fritz Milkau in *Centralblatt für Bibliothekswesen*, 1899, p. 72.
- Periodicals . . . in the New York Public Library and Columbia University Library. [*In Bulletin of the New York Public Library*. Vol. 1, no. 2+. New York 1897+.]  
A classified list, each number covering one subject or group of subjects. Gives full titles, editors, place and dates.
- Zeitschriftenkatalog des K. k. naturhistorischen Hofmuseums von Dr. August Böhm Edlen von Böhmersheim. Wien 1897. viii. [2], 184 p. Q.  
Published as supplement to *Annalen des K. k. naturhistorischen Hofmuseums*. xii. Band 1897.  
Alphabetical list of 2148 periodicals, in the various departments of the Museum, with a special index to titles of society publications, in the main catalog en-

tered under place. In the main catalog is incorporated an alphabetical index of societies.

1898.

Toronto. A joint catalogue of periodicals, publications and transactions of societies, and other books published at intervals, to be found in the various libraries of the City of Toronto. Toronto 1898. [4.] 96 p. O.

Edited by James Bain, Jr., and H. H. Langton.

Alphabetical list of the periodicals of 12 libraries, giving titles, place and date of publication. With classified index.

Generalkatalog der laufenden periodischen Druckschriften an den österreichischen Universitäts- und Studienbibliotheken der technischen Hochschulen, der Hochschule für Bodencultur des Gymnasiums in Zara, des Gymnasialmuseums in Troppa, und der Handels- und nautischen Akademie in Triest; hrsg. im Auftrage des K. k. Ministeriums für Cultus und Unterricht von der K. k. Universitätsbibliothek in Wien, unter der Leitung von Dr. Ferdinand Grasseur. Wien 1898. vii., 796 p. O.

Alphabetical list, with a supplementary list of such periodicals as are to be found only in the K. k. Hofbibliothek in Wien; giving full titles and careful collations, indicating changes, date of first appearance, editors of first volume, and the more important of the later ones; also classified index, with an alphabetical index to subjects, and an alphabetical index to editors.

Reviewed by Fritz Milkau in *Centralblatt für Bibliothekswesen*, 1899, p. 71-78.

Leigh, Charles W. E. List of the current scientific serial publications received by the principal libraries of Manchester; compiled under the direction of the Hon. Librarian [Wm. E. Hoyle] of the Manchester Literary and Philosophical Society. Manchester 1898. vi., 52 p. O.

Includes 741 serials. Mentioned in *The Library Association Record*, vol. 1, p. 186 (March 1899).

1899.

Verzeichniss der Zeitschriften für die Gebiete der Mathematik, der Physik, der Technik und der verwandten Wissenschaften, welche auf Württembergischen Bibliotheken vorhanden sind. In Auftrage der math.-naturwiss. Vereine von Württemberg zusammengestellt von Ernst Wölffing. Stuttgart 1899. 18 p. O.

Reviewed by Ernst Roth in *Centralblatt für Bibliothekswesen*, 1899, p. 240-241.

Besides these lists already published at least three others are known to me to be in preparation: one of Colorado libraries, one of Philadelphia libraries, to be published by the Free Library of Philadelphia, and one of the libraries of Chicago and Evanston prepared by the Chicago Library Club.

So far then as to what has been done and is contemplated. Let us now consider briefly the lessons to be drawn from these lists in regard to the methods of securing the best results in future work. It will be understood that what follows is only my personal view, derived from

the experience of making two such lists. It should be taken, therefore, only as a basis for that discussion and exchange of views which is the great advantage of our meetings.

First, though it may be heresy to state it, I believe that the part which co-operation can play successfully is limited strictly to the first preparation of the material. The editing and publication should be given either to a single institution or individual, or to a very small committee. Even if the general questions of limits, form, and style are decided by agreement between the institutions interested, there will be so many different interpretations of the decisions that careful supervision, practically by one hand, will be found necessary.

The most important question undoubtedly is that of the limit of the lists. The obvious advice on this point is the correct one: namely, to make the list as full and comprehensive as the means at command will allow. In this connection it should be remembered that additional information often can be given without an increase in the cost at all proportional to the increased value thus obtained. It is not always remembered that blank space in composition is paid for at the same rate as words; so that to omit information which does not increase the average number of lines to an entry, is to make the compositor rejoice at the expense of the user of the list. It usually will be found possible, therefore, to give not merely a reasonably full title, but also the place of publication, and, when necessary, the name of the editor.

Three important points, however, will require more careful consideration. First, shall the list be limited to publications currently received, or shall it include those no longer subscribed for and those no longer published? The ease of preparation and comparative cheapness of publication of lists of the first class is a strong inducement to make such; but their usefulness in comparison with the fuller form is much less than the difference in their cost. I understand that the best example of this class, that of the Boston libraries, is looked upon by its compilers as only the basis for a more complete list.

Second, what classes of serial publications shall be included? The practice in the past has been very various, but here also I should advise the inclusion of as much as possible.

Do not think of omitting society publications, and include national, state, and municipal reports if possible. Other purely administrative reports, such as those of charitable societies, railroad companies, etc., are more questionable. Entries of these might be confined to complete or nearly complete sets, or, as proposed by the committee of the Chicago Library Club, to the reports of the city covered by the list, and to state societies of its own state.

The third point is the fulness of entry of the holdings of each institution. Of course if only current periodicals are given this question does not arise. If, however, extinct serials and partial sets are included, then, if the institutions are few, it might be still possible to give the exact holdings in all cases without unduly increasing the cost; but, if they are many, some compromise must be made. That adopted by the Chicago Library Club is perhaps worthy of consideration. If one or more libraries have complete sets of a serial, these are given first, and then the libraries having incomplete sets, with the beginning and end of their sets, but without specification of the imperfections. If, however, no library has a complete set, the

most nearly complete is given in detail, and complementary volumes in other libraries are brought out.

Of the form of entry, style of type and of page, abbreviations, etc., it is not necessary to speak here, because those details are relatively unimportant, and should be settled by any one undertaking the work only after a comparison of the more important lists already published. There is, however, one other point which I would like to urge, and that is the desirability of uniformity in the method of entry. This was felt so strongly by us in Chicago, that we have definitely accepted the arrangement of the Boston list as authoritative, though the members of the committee by no means agreed with this on all points. I should add that they by no means agreed with each other on the same points.

In conclusion, let me call to your attention the proof of the usefulness of these lists in that three of them have passed into their second editions, and let me suggest that future publications of the kind should be set by linotype, or in some similar manner, so as to permit the issue of new editions or at least of cumulative supplements at short intervals.

## CO-OPERATION IN LENDING AMONG COLLEGE AND REFERENCE LIBRARIES.

BY ERNEST C. RICHARDSON, *Librarian Princeton University Library.*

IT is a matter of common observation that with the present limited facilities for our American libraries, students, whether dependent on college libraries or on general reference libraries, are constantly in lack of the books which they want for their work. This, on the one hand, discourages work, and on the other results in the production of inadequate and imperfect books. The greatest handicap comes from the fact that the majority of the books cannot even be found in America, the next from the difficulty of finding where in America such works as there are are located, and a third from the great expense involved in travelling even to American books.

There are four practical methods by which co-operation may come in to ameliorate this situation, and these may be described under "Cat-

aloging," "Purchase," "Specialization," and "Lending."

By co-operation in cataloging is meant the employment of some method by which it may be readily known where books can be found. This method has been carried out splendidly for scientific periodicals in the check list to Bolton's catalog. By co-operation in purchase is meant some arrangement by which libraries may supplement rather than duplicate one another in the getting of that majority of books not now owned by any American library. By co-operation in specialization is meant that method of co-operation in purchase by which various libraries take and develop some specialty to the intent that there shall be, so to speak, a Surgeon-General's Office library for every department of knowledge, and that the



scholar may know at once the most probable supply for his need. By co-operation in lending, finally, is meant the development of some practical scheme whereby, without hardship to the larger libraries, the great expense of travelling to books may be eliminated, so far as American libraries are concerned, by sending books from one library to another.

All these methods involve one another more or less, but in this paper they will be touched on from the standpoint of co-operation in lending, by which is meant here simply the method already in use among American libraries, and still further developed abroad, systematized, authorized, and extended.

The present system is an evolution. At first books as special favor were loaned to known individuals. Then gradually, and for obvious reasons, the rule now generally in use grew up, that books might be loaned to a library but not to an individual. The system is extending more or less all the time and is already a relief to the situation, but the chief objection to it as now practised is that it throws too great a share of the burden on Harvard, Columbia, and a few others, and its use is limited by the fear of trespassing on good nature. The object of this paper is to find some practical method by which the objection may be removed and the method extended.

First of all, let us try to get at a realization of the situation by the analysis of a definite list of books, and for this we happily have the material at hand in the "Library check list" of Bolton's "Catalogue of scientific periodicals."

In Bolton's list there are 8600 periodicals mentioned. Of 5440 of these there is no copy known in this country; of the remaining 3160, 1153 have but one copy, 521 have two copies, 307 three, and the remaining 1179 have more than three copies. Of the 3160 periodicals, Harvard has 919 and Columbia 791. That is to say: of existing scientific periodicals, nearly two-thirds are not to be found in this country at all; one-third of the remainder are represented in this country by a single copy, and another third by not more than three. Only one-eighth, therefore, of the scientific periodicals mentioned in Bolton's catalog are to be found in more than three out of our (say) 500 college and reference libraries, and the very best equipped of our university libraries have only one-tenth of these periodicals at most, and less than one-

third of those which some one has actually found important enough to buy for this country.

Now, making all allowances for the fact that many of these not yet acquired by American libraries are of secondary value, it is nevertheless true that there is hardly one which should not at some time be wanted for consultation in this country. The most impressive lesson of the analysis is, therefore, the absolute lack of books in this country, but the complementary and hardly less impressive lesson is that while we already have more than 3000 sets in this country, even the best equipped universities in the land can consult less than 1000 of these on their own campuses.

What is to be done about it? Shall 500 colleges continue in an indiscriminate way to struggle towards an ideal 8600 periodicals, all of which some one will want some time, but not one in 20 of which some of them will want once in 20 years, or shall we look forward to some sort of definite co-operation, and the sooner the better?

Even if it were not a total impossibility for all college libraries to acquire all the scientific periodicals in the near future, supposing, for the sake of reducing to absurdity, that it were possible, it would involve a waste at the present market value of periodicals, reckoning that there are 500 libraries, of not less than one-quarter of a billion of dollars in the unnecessary duplication of 7000 sets, while two or three copies of each, at a total cost of not more than two or three million dollars, would fairly well supply the need — say, an economic waste of \$250,000,000 in a total investment of \$253,000,000. Absurd as this is, it is not unlike what we are now doing on the present go-as-you-please every-one-for-himself principle. We are duplicating, every year, a great many sets of periodicals, as we would not need to do under some system where all were free to borrow.

I am entirely aware that there are many periodicals which must be in every institution; that there are many of these even of which there should be several copies in each great institution, but I am not speaking of these. I am speaking of those periodicals which are only used occasionally, and which form the majority in every library.

A suggestive example of both classes is found

in Liebig's "Annalen." The latest series are necessary to every institution for constant use. The first series, while extremely valuable for historic purposes, is only a small fraction of the whole; is only needed occasionally even in the largest institutions; costs as much as all other series put together, and there are already 25 copies in the country. The competition of libraries 10 to 25 in getting their complete sets has advanced the price of the series from (say) \$50 to \$300, and the next five years will probably take it to \$500. Suppose, now, that library 26 has reached the stage of affording Liebig. Shall the librarian pay \$300 for all of Liebig that is often wanted and get also one or two other much-needed-all-the-time sets, or shall he pay also another \$300 for this series which will be used once a year, and of which there are already 25 copies in the country, and go without the other? There is already \$7500 worth of first series of Liebig in the country, and, with proper system of co-operation and lending, this plant will supply our need more than twice over. The next \$7500 available for Liebig's first series might then get 50 more needed sets, and would have the incidental advantage of reducing the fancy prices which now prevail for full sets. That is to say, of \$15,000 put into 40 Liebig's, \$1000 should, economically speaking, have been put into 10 copies, and \$14,000 used for other books.

Now, Liebig is even more than a fair example of the matter, because everything which can be said in favor of complete sets counts also in its favor. Whatever applies to Liebig in this connection, therefore, applies, with still greater force, to many of the 300 others.

Here, then, you have on the one hand a great waste of money through unnecessary duplication of copies, and on the other an immense number of sets inaccessible except through a journey to Europe. You have again, on the one hand, the fact that we have a large number of sets in this country, and on the other, the fact that two-thirds of these are inaccessible to even the very best equipped universities, except through expensive journeys or through borrowing.

Now, the ideal way of meeting this situation both for economy and for convenience is undoubtedly a central, national, lending library of the least frequently needed books—a library having, perhaps, a central library in Washington

with branches in New Orleans, San Francisco, Chicago, and New York. But the thing that we are after now is not an ideal, but a practical one. Even if such a library should be established at once, it would be many years before it could be expected to be free of the need of the co-operation of existing libraries. What we have to consider now is how far the same result of increase in apparatus and decrease in labor and cost of getting at it can be gained in some other way, and that way is, of course, co-operation among the already existing institutions. There are, as has been said, various ways of practical co-operation to this end, but the foundation of all is co-operation in lending. With this principle well established, co-operation in specialization and co-operation in cataloging will at least receive an immense new impetus, while co-operation in purchasing will logically and inevitably follow on the basis of the co-operative work in cataloging. In a practical age, in a practical land, with the example of great combinations for personal gain before us, it ought to be possible to devise suitable machinery and secure extensive adopting of this machinery. I do not ignore the fact that there may be obstacles to universal co-operation. There may be legal or political reasons why a municipal library or an endowed reference library could not enter in a combination. There will be personal objection and suspicions of any definite and formal combination on the part of many, but in a matter where the economy and the advantage are so great to all the members, it ought not to be hard to persuade them to go into the deal. If trusts are profitable for private gain, why not for public welfare.

It is not at all necessary, however, to a practical scheme that all libraries should enter it. Suppose that only the eight university libraries, which have over 100,000 volumes, should enter—still an immense gain for them and for America could be made. Suppose even that they only go in a little ways, still every step that they go in is concrete gain. I would, myself, like to see every American library of any size, whose legal and political bonds would permit, go into the matter. I would like to see some central bureau, preferably, perhaps, the Library of Congress or the Smithsonian Institution amply endowed to organize existing resources, guide their future development and supplement them

as far as possible. I would like to see enough altruism or patriotism or far-sightedness, or whatever you choose to call it, infused into the scheme to admit the smallest incorporated library to its benefits.

But if this seems too ideal and remote, and you ask for something more practical, I propose that at least the effort be made to have all the college and university libraries represented in Bolton's catalog join in a lending system at least as liberal as that which prevails among European libraries, on the basis of a definitely prepared list of books, of which each library shall furnish a portion, and according to its means. This could be done, if necessary, on the strictest basis of self-interest, but we might perhaps rise to extending its benefits to non-contributing colleges.

I have said that at the present time the great objection to the system is the extra burden which it throws on a few of the large libraries, and an authorized general system of exchange would increase that burden. As a matter of fact, under the present conditions, one naturally writes to the largest library as being the one most likely to contain the book sought. In the case of the periodicals contained in Bolton's catalog and a few other matters, however, there is a certain tendency towards equalization.

The considerate librarian, if he wishes to borrow one of the Bolton's bibliography periodicals, would choose to ask the favor of one of the smaller libraries having a set wherever possible. Now on the same principle if the committee of librarians of co-operating libraries should take this list and indicate the lending copy or copies of each periodical, it would be easily adjusted so that Harvard, Columbia and the other great libraries should have no more than their share of the burden.

There are, in fact, only 81 periodicals in the case of Harvard and 79 in the case of Columbia which are not owned by some other institution, and it is conceivable that in the case of a general combination their burden should be reduced to the loan of these and these only, whereas the sets that each would be entitled to borrow would exceed 2000 each—that is, they would stand to get 20 times what they give.

On the other hand, there are few institutions that would not contribute something—and as a matter of fact, the small college, with a faculty of half a dozen, if it contributes little also uses

little compared with one having a faculty of several hundred, and what is more it uses the few standard sets that it does own so much less that it can contribute these as lending copies where the larger institutions must keep them for reference.

I would propose further, therefore, that a definite beginning of co-operation should be made in just this way: That a circle of co-operating libraries be formed, authorized by their trustees to interchange, and that a committee of the librarians should take Bolton's catalog and decide on lending copies—perhaps assigning three or four lending copies, geographically distributed. By using the Bolton numbers and letters the cost of printing would be insignificant, and a good start could be made at once. This start might be followed up by taking, say, the list of historical periodicals, etc., in Chevalier, and forming a check list of these with similar assignment. This might perhaps soon be extended to a joint list of the periodicals in the American libraries in all classes, not of scientific periodicals only, but of all periodicals and important sets of great publications. The committee of co-operating libraries, with such a list before it, could assign lending responsibility in such way (1) That the larger libraries should be relieved of the strain of doing more than their share of lending and (2) so that even the smallest library participating should be able to do something in the work.

If such a list were prepared for co-operation in lending it would naturally and inevitably extend to co-operation in purchase. The committee editing the list would discover where the weakest spots in our joint American supply were to be found, and would naturally distribute among themselves the responsibility of filling the gaps in some common sense judgment of which one was best suited to assume each periodical. This would tend in time to definitize and extend co-operation by specialization. All this would result in direct and immediate advantage in use, in an immense saving of capital, in the removing of the unnecessary competition which is raising the cost of scientific periodicals to fabulous proportions, and in a general systematization of the work of building up the college and reference libraries.

In conclusion, there are two or three things which somebody will think should be mentioned, and which may be gathered up in

anticlimax as a sort of miscellany. In the first place, the expense of this lending would be borne, as it is now, by the borrower. In the dim futurity, perhaps, a paternal government may step in and help the matter by lightening still farther the expense of sending such books by mail. For the present, the expense, though considerable, is not to be compared with the expense of travelling to the books, and for a conservative beginning the check of this amount of expense may not be altogether an evil.

In the second place, it should be said that this plan would not need, in any sense, to destroy the right of individual initiative. Every institution will still be free to duplicate what it chooses, and to judge what new material it is for its best interest to acquire. It will simply extend the privilege which it already gives to every scholar to use its books if he will come to the books, to a privilege of having the books taken to him at his expense.

In the third place, and for the benefit of those

members of our association who look at the matter from the standpoint of the dealer, let me say that this need in no wise reduce the business or the profits of the book dealers. American libraries, for a long time to come, are going to use with eagerness every dollar that they can get for the purchase of books. This plan will merely save the dealer a good deal of trouble in the hunting up of unnecessary copies of rare sets, while not reducing the volume of his business in the least.

Finally, we must not close without recognizing more explicitly the fine contributions to our problem of co-operation in lending which are being made by many libraries. The work of the library of the Surgeon-General's office comes very near the ideal, both as to the localization of the supply for need through cataloging and the actual supply by lending. If there were a Surgeon-General's library for every branch of knowledge this little tale might not have been told.

## CLASSIFICATION FOR COLLEGE LIBRARIES.

By OLIVE JONES, *Librarian Ohio State University.*

IF a novice in the library profession were to ask if librarians had ever given any attention to the subject of classification it would be necessary only to open the index to the first 22 volumes of the *Library Journal* at the word Classification and point him to the reference after reference under that much-used term. If a librarian who had kept in touch with all the discussions indulged in by his brethren were asked the question he would probably wearily remark, as did a recent number of the *Library Journal* in commenting editorially upon a new presentation of the classification problem, that "classification, like the poor, is always with us." Yet in all the discussion on this subject, in the papers written, in the arguments advanced, next to nothing has been said about the desirability, indeed the necessity, of different kinds of libraries arranging their books according to their special needs. Libraries of different sizes have been considered and nothing could be better or more ingenious than the provision which has been made in the Expansive classification for small libraries which may eventually grow large, but in regard to libraries

of different character almost the only clear note which has been sounded was in the report on classification presented by Mr. Kephart to the World's Library Congress. He said: "It is evident that the same system cannot be used in all kinds of libraries. Yet, if we take any two university libraries for example, or any two free popular libraries, it will be found that they differ from each other mostly in size or in degree of symmetry, but not in scope nor in the character and wants of their users. I can see no good reason why all libraries of a given class might not use the same general method with mutual advantage." That was written six years ago, but it seemed to call no special attention to the fact that one of the main principles of practical book arrangement was being ignored. To be sure librarians were told to shelve fiction as near the charging desk as possible, and that was about as far as attention to the individual needs of a library went.

But it is not strange that this has been so. During the last 23 years since the library movement has been spreading over the country it has been mainly a public library movement.

The one thought has been to popularize the library, to bring the book to the people, the people to the book, and, as a means to this end, classification is not of the most vital importance. Though in most public libraries classification, and generally close classification, is recognized as exceedingly desirable, the arrangement of the different classes of books on the shelves is not a matter that need specially trouble the librarian, excepting, as had been said before, that he see that the most used classes are as near the charging desk as possible. Providing the books are classified accurately it does not much matter whether chemical technology follows theoretical chemistry or whether it is shelved at some distance away, whether education comes as a subordinate class under sociology or whether it stands alone, yet related to philosophy and psychology. Even in these days of open shelves it does not much matter if English language is shelved in one part of the library, English literature in another, English history in a third, and geography of England in a fourth. It does not matter, because even when a library has a large clientele of scholarly investigators it is not of great moment that they must necessarily look in several places in a library when working up a subject. Every one trained in the use of books knows that it is absolutely impossible for any library to gather together in one place all the literature pertaining to a subject, and, used as the scholar is to looking in different places for his material, the fact that the main divisions of the subject are separated from each other need not trouble him. And the average frequenter of the library does not want everything on the subject. He very seldom looks at it in the broad way. If he does, there is the reference librarian to help him.

And so classifications have been devised and discussed, and some of them discarded, always with the public library's need, or lack of need, unconsciously in mind. The fact that the public library has no special need which must be met left the classifier free to elaborate his "idea of the subdivision of knowledge," as Professor De Morgan says, or to adapt this idea to his notation, which has more often been the case.

But in all healthy growth there comes the period of differentiation, and this period has come, or is surely coming, in the library movement. College libraries as such are beginning

to awaken, and the individuality of other classes of libraries will undoubtedly soon be felt.

That there is a great difference between the ideal college library and the public library is admitted by all who have studied the problems confronting the two institutions. The public library exists for the whole community, it must address itself to all classes of men, it must attract the children and retain the mature reader, furnish recreation for the weary, inspiration for the downcast, suggestions for the mentally alert. The college library exists primarily for the few, and those few with a common interest. Though other readers are welcome it is the need of the professor and student that must first be considered. The library must be looked upon not as a great social force but as a factor in the educational work of the college. This is the fundamental characteristic of the college library. It must be an active force in the educational policy of the school with which it is connected. To that end it must supplement the work of the professor. Now the main part of the professor's work is to teach the student to work for himself. All instruction is coming to be more and more by the laboratory method, whether the equipment of the laboratory be test-tubes and beakers, dynamos and motors, or books. Looked at then as a laboratory the college library must consider the arrangement of the different classes of books on its shelves as one of its most important problems. Defects in the system of classification which could be overlooked in a public library must not be allowed here.

Granted, then, that a classification specially fitted to meet college problems is needed by a college library, and granted also, that none of the systems devised up to this time has been made with that end in view, the question at once arises, What have college libraries been doing? Surely they have not all been in a comatose state. Although it would, I think, be admitted that the great majority of college libraries have not yet felt the quickening power of the modern library movement, yet a sufficient number have been alive to the great power of the library and have been actively enough at work to have established principles which may be accepted as governing some phases of college library affairs. Some of these libraries have devised classifications of their own. It is only necessary to mention Harvard, Cornell,

and the University of California to show what good work each one has done for itself. And Princeton has begun the same work. Other libraries have nominally, at least, adopted one of the well-known systems. But few instances, however, have come to my attention of an up-to-date librarian, who at the same time was closely in touch with educational work, who followed closely either the Decimal classification or the Expansive classification. Since Mr. Dewey and Mr. Cutter are to present papers on this subject, they can correct me if I am wrong in this. I will be interested in knowing of college libraries where either system has been used with satisfaction both to the faculty and the library force without so many modifications that the system is scarcely recognizable. Let me give two or three instances noted in my investigation of the subject. Visiting one large university whose catalog announced that the Dewey system of classification was used in the library, the librarian was asked his reason for using the classification. His answer was that it had been adopted by his predecessor and it had seemed best to continue its use, but that if he had been free to choose it never would have been adopted. When asked as to whether he found the classification satisfactory he took from his desk a copy of the D. C., opened it and showed me the book. It was a graphic answer. Pages were marked out completely, number after number was changed, and when the classification was adopted as it stood the value of the notation was lost because the books were not arranged according to the numerical order.

On writing to the librarian of an important university who is supposed to have adopted the Expansive classification I received this reply: "We use the Cutter Expansive classification, but with so many changes that I do not know whether we have any right to call it Cutter. I cannot see how Cutter or Dewey could be used with any satisfaction without many changes in any college library of any size or personality."

A rather interesting incident occurred in connection with my inquiry into the classification of the library of one of our most prominent schools. I was assured by a former librarian, the one, by the way, who introduced the classification (it being the D. C.) into the library, that he had found it very satisfactory, had changed but little, and that he had never understood

why so much fault had been found with the printed scheme. Shortly after I visited the school itself and found that the professors were not at all satisfied with the classification of the library and did not consider the system a good one for a library connected with an institution of learning. Seemingly a difference in the point of view, although if a college library is to accomplish the greatest good it is absolutely necessary that the librarian and professors be made to see things as nearly as possible from the same point of view.

Right here is the point which must be considered in choosing a classification for a college library. It must be devised from the standpoint of the professor as well as of the librarian. Dr. Richardson, in writing of his admirable classification of classical philology, stated the principle of college classification in a nutshell when he said: "It is just what the professors need, or think they need." In some of our colleges there is too little attention paid to the professor. Not by any means that the professor should be supreme. Professors are only human, and if left to themselves would be too much inclined to make of the university library a collection of private libraries. Because the money is divided between the departments, the professor in charge of the department being allowed in most instances to hand in orders up to the amount of his appropriation, he is rather too much inclined to feel that the books when they come are his and must be found on his shelves, and is sometimes—I am glad that these occasions are rare—inclined to resent the use of the books by another department. Such a professor must be made to know that the library as a whole stands above any one department. Then, too, the library must not be kept down to the level of an incompetent professor. If it is known that the professor is not keeping abreast of educational advancement, if his methods of teaching are out of date, the library should take the lead in his work. The reference librarian should be instructed to pay special attention to his students, bibliographies and finding lists should be made specially for them, and the department be thus forced to the front. In this respect the librarian stands next to the president and his position in the university should be so recognized.

Looked at then from the standpoint of a

professor, in arranging the books of a library those classes which the instructor needs to have at hand when presenting the literature of a subject should be shelved near to each other. This is seen especially in the seminary and department libraries, and as a matter of fact these books are gathered together no matter how they have been classified and how marked. A rather amusing and confusing sight was a department library in a school whose books were classified by the D. C. It was the library of chemistry and the books which ought to be there were there, but the marks were a mixture of 500's and 600's which bewildered the observer. It may be objected that it is better not to make the road of learning too easy for the student by gathering the major part of his material for him. Let him learn to search among all books in all parts of the library. There will be enough of that for him to do in any case. It will require the direction of the professor, the oversight of the librarian, and at first the individual help of the reference assistant, to train him to look for all that the library can yield on his subject. It is better that the time of the professor and student be saved by having the main classes together. It may also be objected that courses of instruction change from time to time, that the classes which could have been shelved together some years since may now in the same institution be shelved apart, if the principle of aiding instructors is carried out. Then let it be so. Provide in the classification and notation for just such a contingency. This can be done and is now being done at Harvard. There each main class stands alone as far as notation is concerned, and if it should ever seem best to take a class up bodily and transfer it to some other department of the library there is no numerical or alphabetical order to be disturbed. If the main classes were smaller in size and greater in number this could be even better done.

It may be said that it would be hard to devise a notation which would work well for such a classification. It would certainly be hard to devise a notation which would show the interrelation of classes, or be a guide to the contents of the books as suggested by Mr. Adams in his "Combining system of notation." But is that after all the true purpose of notation? Is it not magnifying its office? The definition

of notation as given in the glossary of library terms in the "Library primer" is "A system of signs (figures, letters, arbitrary characters, or any combination of these marks) used to designate the class and book number or shelf number of the volumes of a library, so as to assist in finding or replacing them accurately and quickly." In other words the notation is a guide for finding a book's place in the library, not a guide to its contents nor to its relation to other classes of books. If we could only get this restricted idea of the function of notation settled in our minds we would find much greater freedom in classifying according to the needs of a library. Here is clearly defined a point of difference between a college and a public library. Since the mark on a book which shows its place in a library is also used as a symbol for the book in most charging systems, a public library must insist on having that mark as simple and quickly written as possible. On a busy day at the loan desk when thousands of books are being circulated it is absolutely necessary that the call number be brief. In a college library this is not so. The circulation is the smallest part of the work, and although it is always desirable to make a notation as simple as possible, yet a good arrangement of the books need not, indeed must not be sacrificed to a call number. The call number may be long if necessary.

Mr. Biscoe in his defence of the Decimal classification in the *Library Journal* for November, 1898, has likened classification to a "vast series of pigeon-holes in which subjects are placed." His idea, however, is first a large case, this he divides into compartments, and these are further divided into pigeon-holes, the relation of the pigeon-holes one to the other always remaining the same. My idea is rather that of the Wernicke system of units. If you wish the daily report file unit on top, the catalog drawer unit in the middle, and the card index unit at the bottom, you can have it so, but you can just as well have any other arrangement of the three that suits you, or you can have only two units, or one, or as many as you wish.

To the objection that with such an arrangement one would never know where in a library to find a given class of books, the answer is that of course there would be need of a plat of the library, just as a map of a city is needed by a

stranger in order that he may know where to find the streets mentioned in the directory. When the arrangement of the classes is changed a new plat will of course have to be made. In a library with room for growth and connected with a college whose courses of study are well mapped out there will not often be need for change. But when the need comes it should be met. And a plat of the library is a very desirable thing no matter what system of classification or notation is used. I have in mind the very neat and attractive plat of each floor of the Amherst stack, which hangs just where the visitor will easily see it on entering the floor. A list of all the classes and the location of each hanging by the catalog case would obviate all difficulty.

But it was not the intention of this paper to propose a scheme for classifying a college library. It was desired first to show that at present there existed no system of classification which was found satisfactory when working out the practical problems of a college library, and, secondly, it is desired to urge the College Section to seriously take up this problem and if possible by means of a committee appointed by the section to devise at least a skeleton classification which can be offered to the many colleges over the country that are just awakening to the necessity of a live, active college library. For, as has been said, the awakening of the college library has only fairly begun. In most of the colleges it will still be found that the duties of a librarian are laid upon the shoulders of a professor in addition to his other work. But the next few years will undoubtedly bring great changes, partly due to the intense library spirit which pervades the country and which will naturally affect all classes of libraries, and partly due to the changes in educational methods which are being adopted in even the smallest colleges. It is in behalf of the colleges that are about to begin the reorganization of their libraries that I speak now. They are not in a position to settle questions of classification for themselves; they must take a system offered with some authority. A case in point is that of a large and influential denominational college of wide reputation. Although it has been prominently before the public for years and has a large attendance its library was in the old-time condition until very recently. Indeed it might have been termed a collection of libraries, so

many ministers having bequeathed their books to the college and each library having been kept by itself. A few years since a man was found who wished to perpetuate his name in stone and he was persuaded that a library building for his church school was the fitting way in which to do it. As a result there was completed last year a really fine building and the books were moved into it during the summer vacation. There was not sufficient money at the disposal of the college to provide a librarian, so it was necessary to continue on the old plan of having a professor in charge of the library. The professor selected for this work was a young man very enthusiastic in his specialty and very sincere in all work which he would undertake. He applied himself to the library problem and last fall he and his assistant were among the most interested of those attending the meeting of the state library association. I asked him about the methods adopted in the library, especially the classification. He said that he was not satisfied with the system of classification presented to him, but what was he to do? He had not time to take up the problem for himself, he could not forget that library work was not his main work, so he did what seemed to be the best thing he could do under the circumstances, he adopted the D. C. He began classifying by it and found it not at all satisfactory. In our discussion of college library classification at the meeting of the College Section of the Ohio Library Association this professor was one of the most severe critics of the decimal system. During the last winter this library has received a large endowment and will soon be in a position to rank high among active college libraries; but, unless it undoes all the work which it has done, it will always be hampered by a classification which is not the one suited to its needs.

This is only one instance out of many. The college libraries are needing help, and they are needing it in this special direction. In many points, of course, the interests of all libraries are the same. Leaving book selection out of the question, the work done in a library naturally divides itself into three classes. The first is the securing and recording of books as the property of the library. It might have the general name of the acquisition department, and includes ordering, accessioning, plating, stamping, checking periodicals, binding, and



all work involved in keeping files of reports and transactions up to date. All of this work would need to be carried on no matter what would be the disposition of the books after they became a part of the library. If need be, they could be piled up on the floor like so much firewood, as is now being done because of lack of room in a library with which I am intimately acquainted, yet no part of the work necessary to make them an integral part of the library could be omitted. The second division includes the orderly arrangement of the books—in other words, their classification and shelf-listing. The third division, the extent and importance of which is so great that it is apt to overshadow the first two divisions, includes all the means employed in bringing the reader and the book together. In this division is found the majority of the lines of activity generally known as library work. Here comes cataloging, the making of finding lists and bibliographies, the circulation of books, the reference work, children's rooms, branch libraries, travelling libraries. All is done to bring the library and its constituency into closer touch. Now the principles involved in the first division of library work are the same for all libraries. That, I

think, is admitted. Business methods must obtain whether the purchases be large or small, whether you buy fiction or science. In the third division very many of the principles are the same. No one wants any better rules for cataloging than those already formulated. And here, too, it has always been clearly recognized that many of the methods employed in making the library available to readers must be determined by the character of the library and its constituency. It is no more expected that the reference work of a public library be really a course of instruction in the use of books than that a college library should have a children's room.

It is in the second division alone that the fact that the principles of work are not the same for libraries of different character has been but faintly recognized.

Here, then, as has been said, is where the college library needs help. If the College Section of the A. L. A. were to issue under its authority some system of classification so flexible that it could be adapted to the varying needs of different colleges without destroying the notation, it would be doing a really great work. At least let the work be attempted.

## SUITABILITY OF THE EXPANSIVE CLASSIFICATION TO COLLEGE AND REFERENCE LIBRARIES.

BY CHARLES A. CUTTER, *Librarian Forbes Library, Northampton, Mass.*

TWO things must be considered—the general fitness of the Expansive classification for any library and its special adaptation for college work.

The E. C. was made for a proprietary library which allowed free access to the shelves. A man employed in that library said to me yesterday: "I am greatly attached to the E. C. I do not see how any one who uses it can help liking it." It was afterwards tried, with an improved notation, in other kinds of libraries—town, city, medical, military, naval, state, historical, high school, and college, and has been examined by librarians committed to other systems and by experts and teachers in library schools. This is what they say of it:

"Invaluable."

"I wish I could use it."

"Your system is far superior to Dewey's."

"Simple to understand, very clearly put."

"The more I study E. C. the more I like it."

"I like the Medical classification very much."

"We are always glad to recommend this system."

"Consider Expansive best system ever devised."

"The books seem to fit into the classes very easily."

"The superiority of the scheme, especially in Science."

"The classification of the book arts seems most excellent."

"I can only speak of it in terms of the highest appreciation."

"The nomenclature in Language and Philology is unusually good."

"Your system, which I regard on the whole as the best in existence."

"I have always been glad that we adopted the Expansive classification."

"Excellent and superior to any other that has been offered to librarians thus far."

"I like the subdivisions very much better than those of the Decimal system."

"Indispensable even to the experienced librarian as a guide in accurate classification."

"From a scientific point of view your treatment of Biology seems especially excellent."

"Your charging system promises to be as helpful as I have found your classification and book numbers."

"Should adopt it were I to change. Have examined it carefully, especially in History and Social Science, and consider it the ablest."

"I am delighted with the arrangement of Natural Sciences, especially with the mark for books on Nature and with the position of Anthropology after Zoology."

"Your work is a perfect mine of ductile and flexible metal, and seems to be fully appreciated by the bibliothécaires, if one may judge from the almost universal use made of it in many adaptations."

"I am using here the D. C., and therefore see the many disadvantages of that. I know nothing practically about the E. C., but I should expect Mr. Cutter's classification to be superior to the D. C. in logical arrangement and provision for 'all sorts and conditions' of topics."

"The Expansive classification has, as its name implies, the possibility of expansion in all directions; changes are more easily made and sub-divisions in different classes introduced, without disarranging previous order. Its local list, which can be applied to any class, is an especially fine feature, which is lacking in the D. C."

"I have been well pleased with having adopted the Expansive classification for use here. I should certainly feel like suggesting its use at —. I see no reason to expect the special difficulty that you mention, that it would be harder to arrange and to find books under the notation using letters than under the notation using figures."

This is what the college librarians say:

"I am deeply interested in the question of a satisfactory classification for a college library. The E. C. is greatly superior to the D. C., but I cannot feel that it is just what we need."

"I sat down with the D. C. and the E. C. side by side, and spent the afternoon in a careful comparison of the two. At the end I said, 'The E. C. is the one we want. We'll discard all that we have done and take this. We'll use the most fully developed form—the seventh.' We introduced it as fast as we could, and we are thoroughly satisfied with it."

"We have been using the Expansive classification in this library for several years. In elasticity and in general arrangement it is superior to any other with which I am acquainted. We have not found in actual practice that the class marks are longer or more complicated than in other systems, nor have we found any inconvenience arising from the combined use of letters and figures."

"I have arranged the philosophical books according to the seventh system, and the arrangement is satisfactory to those who use the books as well as to myself. I have marked our scientific books according to the sixth. I like the classification very well, and, so far as I can judge without having used it very extensively, it is well adapted to a college library. I have not found difficulty with the notation so far as I have used it."

"The E. C. has been in use in this university library for over 100,000 volumes for six years. We started with the sixth, but have shifted to the seventh as fast as it came out. I believe your seventh to be admirably adapted to the needs of a large college library. I am not aware that the notation has caused any difficulty. If I were to put into two words the qualities which lead me to prefer the E. C., they would be its Rationality and its Flexibility."

"In 1888 I took this library, with only accession and shelf number to locate books. I have nearly doubled the library in size, have introduced E. C. notation and distribution to every book in the library. I have removed the paper labels first used on back of books, and put notation on in stamped letters, and have completed dictionary catalog for all books and pamphlets, without any help other than that secured from students during their college course. We have no stack, the shelves being entirely open to all students. Twice I have kept a student one year after graduation, but aside from this the work has been done by undergraduates, without previous training. This is not to show what I have done, but what could not have been done, I

believe, had we used a figure notation. I have to begin at the start with each man, and *the beauty of the E. C. is that it appeals to the common sense and logic a man has in him.* The same is true in a great measure of those who wish to use the library independently, students as well as professors."

In theory, classification and notation are two entirely different things, but in practice they are married, so that it is not altogether an Irish bull to say that the better half of the Expansive classification is the notation that accompanies it. That notation is simple, short, elastic, correspondent, mnemonic.

*First.* It is simple. Letters are used to mark the main classes and all their non-local subdivisions, and for nothing else. Figures are used for two things. The numbers from 1 to 10 mark those divisions which it is convenient to group together at the beginning of many classes, namely: Theory and Study, the Bibliography, Biography, and History of the class, the form divisions Dictionaries and Encyclopædias, Handbooks and Tables, Periodicals, Societies, and Collections (meaning works of several authors together). The figures from 1 to 10, I say, are used for this. The figures from 11 to 99 are used to mean countries (40, Spain; 56, Russia; 61, India; 71, Egypt; 83, the United States, and so on), so that it is possible to express the local relations of any subject in a perfectly unmistakable way, the letters never being used to signify countries, and the figures never being used to signify any other subjects but countries. Thus 45 is England wherever it occurs; *e. g.*, F being History, F45 is the history of England; G being Geography, G45 is the geography of England, or travels in England, and so on; and this notation can be used not merely with the main classes, but with every subdivision, no matter how minute, which in any library is worth dividing by countries, as K145, English law; H145, English joint stock companies; H745, English budget; H45, English tariff; I645, the English poor; I45, English schools; I945, English universities; J745, English politics; J45, English administration; or to turn to another order of ideas: X45, English language; Y45, English literature; Z45, History of English literature; Z745, English bibliography; W745, English architecture; W45, English painting. Wherever

one wishes to separate what relates to England from other works on any subject, one has only to add 45 and the thing is done.

No other system has this feature. It is true that the later editions of the Decimal scheme have provided a similar list of marks for 69 countries, using the numbers 30-99, but as these same numbers are also used for all sorts of subjects, there is nothing to show in any particular case whether they mean country or not. For example: 37, which in the Decimal classification is Rome and Italy in Geography, is also seminary method in Education, regular polyhedrons in Geometry, Kepler's problem in Astronomy, azimuth constant in Practical astronomy, spectrum in Descriptive astronomy, norite in Lithology, cups and vessels in Prehistoric archæology, rosaceæ in Botany, mayaceæ in Monocotyledons, arthrostata in Articulates, pancreas in Anatomy, hot drinks, tea, coffee, etc., in Personal hygiene, inspection of pigments, wall papers, etc., in Public health, pancreas in Pathology, disproportionate growth of parts in Orthopedic surgery, amnion in Diseases of women, sewage farming in Sanitary engineering, nature printing in Printing, gables and pediments in Architecture, and more than twice as many other things in other places. I do not suppose that to a person thoroughly acquainted with the system this presents much difficulty, but certainly 37 considered as a local number is not mnemonic, and such a farrago of meanings is far from simple. A similar enumeration could be made of multitudinous meanings for every one of the other 68 numbers. People who know nothing of the Expansive classification talk to me of the superior simplicity of the Decimal notation. It strikes me that the boot is on the other leg. In the E. C., on the contrary, as figures above 11 never mean anything but a country, whenever they occur in a mark one knows at once that the book so marked treats of its subject with special reference to a country, *e. g.*, when one sees N83 or O83 or R783, one knows that it means something about the United States, 83 being the U. S. country number. (These three marks denote the U. S. flora N83, the U. S. fauna O83, and the U. S. fisheries R783.)

*Second.* The letter part is much shorter in its marks than any figure notation can be. It starts with 26 classes instead of 10; it sub-

divides each of these classes by 26 instead of by 10; when it uses three characters (the least number used in the D. C.) it makes 17 times as many classes as the figures make; with four characters it has 45 times as many, and with five 118 times as many. Now, this means almost perfect freedom, plenty of subdivisions where one wants a great many, and few divisions with very short marks where one needs only a few. And with this liberal notation one can do a great deal to make different parts of the classification correspond in marking with one another, which one cannot do if one has a very limited number of characters to work with. One can also express the relation of classes to one another and to their subordinate parts much better.

*Third.* It is mnemonic, *i.e.*, alliterative, a matter of minor importance, but still, as far as it goes, a help, first, in learning the class marks, and then in keeping the less used marks in mind. I find myself helped very much by it, but I know of others to whom it gives no help whatever. That is their misfortune, but of course is no objection to the notation, for in this it is no worse than a figure notation, which can give no help to anybody.

I have been amused by hearing people say that figures are more easily remembered than letters. I ask them which they find easier to remember, the initials of their friends' names or the street numbers of their friends' houses. Some say one and some the other. The fact is that a man remembers easily what he uses constantly.\* If he addresses many letters to the headquarters of the Library Bureau the number 530 sticks in his memory in connection with it. But if he classifies by the D. C. 530 seems to him to mean Physics and nothing else, though those three figures have no natural connection whatever with Physics. But C has a connection with Christianity, and there is a reason why G should stand for Geography, and in class B *Bm* for Moral philosophy, in C *Cb* for Bible, *Ce* Evidences, *Cp* Polity of the Church, *Cr* Ritual, in F (Hist. Sci.) *Fc* Chronology, *Fi* Inscriptions, *Fm* Numismatics, in H (Economics) *Hc* Commerce, *Hm* Money, *Hs*

Taxation, in I (Sociology) *Ic* Criminal classes, and so on.

One use of these initial-markings is that they afford certain fixed points from which one can calculate forward or backward. *E.g.* one knows that Banking is the next class to Money. Now, Money is easily remembered as *Hm*. Then Banking will be *Hs*. But, as I said before, no one is obliged to use these mnemonics; nothing depends on them; nothing has been sacrificed to bring them about. Those who do not like that sort of thing can simply ignore them.

There is, I know, a certain prejudice, I cannot give it a higher name, against the use of letters in notation and still more against the concurrent use of letters and figures. Many persons are so much influenced by this that they turn away from the E. C. at once. Some even after examination and while acknowledging the merits of the classing are willing to give up all the advantage of a carefully worked out classification, all the convenience of a short and easily remembered notation, all the assistance to be had from a well-constructed and effective local list rather than make the slight effort required to get familiar with the notation, although if they would do that all difficulty would vanish at once. With other persons it is not so much their own repugnance to the use of letters for marks as the fear that other people, their assistants or the public, will be puzzled or repelled. The fear is needless. Read what *those who have used the notation say*:

"Perfect freedom in notation, interpolation, etc."

"I have not found difficulty with the notation."

"I am not aware that the notation has caused any difficulty."

"I had boys for a time and found no difficulty with them. I remember one to whom I gave half an hour's instruction and looked in on him the next day and that was all; he never needed any more, and he is a young boy."

"With reference to your notation, my experience is that it is no more difficult for boys to manage than the Dewey, when the latter is applied to close classification. A glance at the Bulletin of the Hartford Public Library should convince one of this."

"I have found no difficulties with the notation. My 'runner' is a high school student; he learned the location of the books very quickly

\* I asked my latest pupil-assistant if he found any difference in ease of remembering between the numbers of our local marks and the letters of our subject mark. "No," said he, "except that I use the letters more, and so I know them better."

and at first I discovered only a few misplacements. He has been here less than a year and has averaged not over two hours a day, but for some time he has been able to get books readily and accurately. Within three years I have trained two assistants with equally encouraging results."

"Boys take to the Cutter marks even more easily than girls. I was not here when the change was first made from numbers to the alphabetical arrangement, but on inquiry I cannot find that any difficulty was felt, except that incident to any change, and they all say, after they got used to the change itself, it was very much easier, for in many cases, if they know the author and title, it is not necessary to know the number at all. This applies especially to fiction and biography, but I find that in other classes they often find the books in the same way, without having to look up the number."

"With 12,000 volumes the circulation was over 120,000 volumes a year for home use, with a reading-room use of about 30,000 volumes more. We liked the E. C. very much and found the notation simple. It was very interesting to see how quickly the assistants learned the arrangement of the books. The people, too, who had free access to the shelves, easily learned to find the books. I know that figures are more quickly written than letters, but with the card charging system the writing of the call number each time a book goes out is avoided. My short experience in a small technical library closely classified by the Decimal system makes me feel that the notation of the E. C. is simpler. The marks are shorter and the letters are more easily arranged than the decimal marks. I have only spoken of the use of the notation, for I feel that the classification speaks for itself. I believe that the notation would seem simple to you as soon as you began the practical use of it."

"You speak of the length of the call number. I should like to enclose some numbers copied from a catalog which claims to be an adaptation of the D. C.:

Knight's Shakespeare,	822.33Sho.4.1
Kittyleen, by Clarke,	813.C40646.245
Murfree, Tennessee Mts.,	813 M8625 468
Cooke, Henry St. John,	813.C6644 06

In the Lowell City Library, which is D. C., the call numbers are equally objectionable. In the E. C., G59c represents description of Constanti-

nople, while 914.96 are the numbers required to represent the same in the D. C. For general travel Mr. Cutter uses only the letter G, while for travel, in the D. C., three figures (910) are always necessary. The same holds true in almost every division. We have lists for books sent in from three delivery stations, and in no instance, however badly written, have we been unable to find, by a comparison with the shelf sheets, what book was desired. The comparison of list with shelf sheet is only made, of course, when there is a little doubt about the figures or letters on the list. With our attendants the letter to indicate a class is easier to remember than a figure; it means more to them. Free access to the shelves is permitted in this library, and with a yearly circulation of about 75,000 volumes we are able with very little trouble to keep the books in their proper positions. We have employed boys as well as young ladies to return the books to the shelves, and it took very little time for either to understand the classification. The attendants who have been with us before and since the change in classification would not be willing to return to the old system, finding this so much more simple and adaptable."

"Mr. — decided that of all known forms of classification the E. C. was superior. During the three years the boys and attendants at the issue desk found no difficulty in the practical working of the system. I think none of the boys there had more than a grammar-school education, and at times some of those employed were rather below the average intelligence. In reorganizing my library at — I decided to use the E. C. in one of its simpler forms, the fourth classification mainly, using portions of the sixth in certain classes where the library had many books and a fuller subdivision was desirable. All the desk work was done by boys, and they were usually boys with only a grammar-school education and of average brightness and fitness for their work. The combination of letters had no terrors for them, and they very soon became expert in finding and putting up books, and they did both very rapidly. I think the difficulties of the notation are much over-estimated by those who have not tried the E. C. I have never used the D. C., but in my opinion those who believe the E. C. to be a better classification than the D. C. (as I do myself) need not be deterred from using it

on account of its notation. In many cases, notably Biography, Geography, History, and Literature, the book numbers are shorter than in the D. C., and the 'local list' is, I think, one of the very good features. The fact that 83, for instance, means always the United States, whether used with F, G, or any other letter, is of great assistance to the memory. The E. C., like the D. C., becomes more complex and difficult to handle the more it is subdivided, but I cannot see why several letters added to the class letter should bother one more than the additional figures after the D. C. has been curried out to three figures."

Of the classification there is time for only a hasty characterization.\* It has sometimes been called complicated. Nature is complicated in the sense in which this is meant — of being full of distinctions. But the E. C., even where it is most minutely subdivided, is said to be easily intelligible; and, moreover, is no more detailed than the user chooses to make it. With the same notation there are seven different classifications of progressively increasing fulness. He can select any one that suits his ideas, or he can mix two or three together, using one of the earlier and less developed schemes where he prefers broad outlines and one of the later schemes for those classes which for any reason he thinks ought to be broken up into more sections. This is not the only liberty. In hundreds of cases alternative places for subjects are allowed and suggested, so that the scheme may meet all sorts of special requirements, all sorts of individual whims even, though I often venture to say what I prefer, so as to assist those who haven't the time for or shrink from the labor of choosing for themselves. It is one of the advantages of a letter notation that it has enough characters to spare for such extra classes.

And here let me remark in parenthesis that the minuteness of one's classification does not show itself to the public by the marks on the backs of the books, to which they will pay no attention, but by the labels on the shelves. If, for instance, you have only half a shelf full of Domestic economy, but, in view of those likely to be added, think it well to adopt 12 subdivi-

sions, of which perhaps seven are represented by the present stock, you only put on one label, "Domestic economy." The shelf-going patron sees this and only this. As he looks over the books he doesn't notice or care for their order, and so he is not troubled by any "complexity." When the stock has increased to two shelves partially full you can add another label, "Food and cookery," and long before you reach the size of the British Museum, which has 50 or 60 shelves of cook-books alone, you can make a label of every one of the 12 subdivisions and your shelf-goer will be glad to have them, especially if he sees a list of them hung up on the end of the shelves or in some other convenient place which will serve the same purpose as the list of rooms and occupants at the entrance to an office building.

The order of classes and (what is much more important) of subdivisions under classes, though very likely not the best possible and certainly not the only good order, tries to be scientific, logical, natural, convenient. It follows the practice now general both in classification and cataloging of putting the inclusive, the general, first and the special, the subdivision, afterwards. Among the subdivisions it puts the local first, then the subject divisions. It follows the evolutionary idea throughout, in Natural history putting the parts of each subject in the order which that theory assigns to their appearance in creation. Its science proceeds from the Molecular to the Molar, from Number and Space through Matter-and-Force to Matter-and-Life. Astronomy, proceeding from the general to the particular, first surveys the stellar system, then concentrates upon the sun and its satellites, ending with the earth considered astronomically. The proper successor to this is the earth, in itself, that is considered physiographically and geologically, and the plants and animals upon its surface. Here, therefore, we make an easy transition from Physics or the matter sciences to Natural history or the life sciences. Then Botany rises from Cryptogams to Phanerogams, Zoology from Protozoa to Primates, ending with anthropology. Part of that is Anatomy and Physiology, which leads directly to the practice of medicine and its various branches. So we modulate from Science into the Arts.

In other places also each subject runs on to the next by easy transitions. Thus Bible,

\* The classification of Electricity which was read here as an example will shortly appear in the 7th system, class R.

since the first half belongs to Judaism and the second to Christianity, is put between the two; Church history leads from Theology to History; Statistics from Geography and description of countries to Economics; the Theatre and Music are links between the Recreative and the Fine Arts.

I suppose it will not be urged here as I have heard it elsewhere that all this is of no account, that any broad common sense scheme will do, that the people do not care for fine distinctions, ingenious arrangements, symmetrical form, and that librarians are too busy in choosing books, elevating the taste of the public, pushing their relations with schools, conducting exhibitions and museums, to notice whether their classification is good or bad, or, if they do not like it, can yet get along with its infelicities and obstructions as they could with a slightly ill fitting coat or a slightly pinching shoe. I suppose this is more or less true of town or city libraries, but surely the more leisurely reference librarian will not feel thus indifferent to ideal considerations.

But any librarian who admits the public to his shelves will find that they will get much more pleasure and profit from their privilege if the books are put on the shelves in an arrangement simple, rational, easily explicable, and suited in its degree of minuteness to the size of his library at present or in a not too distant future.

Inasmuch as large special collections, which may come to any library, require specially minute classing, a system which is intended for general use must work out general subjects in great detail. This the E. C. does.\*

On the other hand it is advised that individual Biography and Fiction, and each national literature be kept in one single alphabet, though a notation is provided for divisions if desired. And the classing recommended for ordinary use is minute in those places where minuteness is easy for the classifier and useful to the user (that is, especially in things concrete or local), but broad in parts where divisions would depend on differences not easily recognized either

by the classifier or the reader (that is chiefly in abstract subjects.)

And this leads me to notice that there are two opposite tendencies in classification makers, which for want of a better name I may call, the one a tendency towards the abstract and general, the other a tendency towards the concrete and individual. The first divides everything into general subject classes or form classes, such as Philosophy, Theology, Biology, Philology, Literature, Poetry, Drama, and scatters all that relates to individuals among these. The second has the same general classes, but also has a number of concrete and even of individual classes, like Woman, Books, Shakespeare, etc. To the first belong nearly all the systems in use for classification on the shelves, indeed all of the published systems. Extreme examples of the second — going so far as to destroy all subject arrangement — are the old classification of the N. Y. State Library and the present arrangement of the N. Y. Mercantile Library, in which books are classified simply by the individual author in one alphabetical order of family names. A certain number of libraries have shown the influence of this individualizing tendency in special cases, when everything of or about some selected author is put into one alcove.†

In the E. C. this individualizing tendency is recognized in a number of cases. Not to speak of Bible and Woman, which occur in many schemes, the E. C. offers to its users sections for Children, and for the Book arts,‡ and in Literary history there are notations for special collections of Shakspeare, Dante, Goethe, Moliere, Milton, which are adjustable for any other author whom the librarian desires to segregate. So in the minute subdivision of grammar, instead of putting a pamphlet on the inflection of the noun under Inflection and a thesis on the syntax of the noun under Syntax, I offer a special place where whatever relates to the noun is gathered together. There are similar

\* Many have a Shakespeare collection. Wellesley has also Goethe, Schiller, Homer, Milton, Dante, Chaucer, and Spinoza collections. Cornell has 6000 volumes of and on Dante, also Goethe, Hutton, Kant, Byron, Lessing, Luther, and Reuter collections.

† That is, all the arts which go to the making and use of a book from Authorship through Writing, Printing, Publishing, Bookselling, up to Libraries (private and public), ending with Bibliography and Literary history.

\* See Greek philosophy Ba, Indian religions B20, the subdivision to be used after any religion (note to Bry), Bible Ca, Apocrypha Cev, Life of Christ C66, Papacy D64, the Huguenots D7 392, History of Rome F35, the table of divisions to be used for any language, the form and the period tables in Literature, also the Shakespeare and Dante tables.

places for the pronoun, the adjective, the verb, the particle.

But the most important instance of thing-arrangement is classification by countries. It was practised long ago by Professor Jewett in the scheme devised by him for the Boston Public Library, where it is still in use. It is perhaps better known from Mr. Noyes' Brooklyn Library catalog, in which besides the usual general classes, there is a great section called "Countries," under which all that relates to each nation in biography, history, geography, language, and literature is put together under the name of the country.

At a meeting of the College Section last year at Lakewood-on-Chautauqua, the country grouping of Language, Literature, and Literary history was declared to be very necessary for college libraries. The E. C. adopts it as one of its alternatives. The use in its notation of letters to denote non-local subjects and of figures to denote countries allows the classifier to place under the country not merely Language and Literature, but also Art, Commerce, Geography, History, Law, the Natural sciences, the Arts, and all of their subdivisions, any subject in fact which he desires to include, whether broad or minute, if only treated locally. The notation permits the widest liberty. This arrangement may be adopted for all countries or for a selection of countries. All subjects or a selection of subjects may be so treated. The selection need not even be the same for different countries, though, of course, there are the usual reasons in favor of uniformity of treatment.

The method is simply this: The SUBJECT and FORM CLASSES and their NON-LOCAL SUBDIVISIONS are marked by LETTERS (as F History and Fc Chronology, G Geography and travels, W Art and Wp Painting, Y Literature and Zy Literary History). The marks for books relating to COUNTRIES begin with FIGURES, which are followed by letters showing the subject divisions (as 35xc Indo-Germanic languages, 32wj Greek sculpture, 36wp Italian painting, 38mjv Swiss glaciers, 39fx French revolution, 40yd Spanish drama, 42yn Scotch songs, 43yq Irish wit, 45hk English commerce, 57vv Hungarian music). On the shelves the letter (subject) classes would be kept in one part of the library, the figure (country) classes in another. But if the selection of local subjects thus put under countries was limited to one group of

classes the countries would be put in that neighborhood. If, for instance, only History and Geography were put under countries the figure notation would naturally be intercalated between G and H; if it contained only Language and Literature it would follow Z.

The following examples partly show the result for one country. Note that in each subject ALL the subdivisions of the class can be introduced whenever they are wanted.

#### GERMANY (47).

##### *Spiritual Sciences.*

- 47B German philosophy.
- 47BM German ethics.
- 47BZ German mythology.
- 47CBC German higher criticism.
- 47CF German theology.
- 47CP German church polity.

##### *Historical Sciences.*

- 47D Ecclesiastical history of Germany.
- 47E German biography.
- 47F German history.

With all the period divisions given on pp. xi - 24 of History, as 47F: ca. Reign of Henry the Fowler (a colon is needed after the F to distinguish these periods from the subdivisions of F that follow).

- 47FF German antiquities.
- 47FI German inscriptions.  
Alternative, 47xa.
- 47FU German numismatics.
- 47FV German heraldry.
- 47FW Lists of German nobility.
- 47G German geography, travels in Germany.  
With parts of Germany and places in Germany alphabetically sub-arranged as 47G M47 Meissen.
- 47GZ Maps of Germany.

##### *Social Sciences.*

- 47HB Statistics of Germany.
- 47HE German industry.
- 47HH Co-operation in Germany.
- 47HK German commerce.
- 47HN German banking.
- 47HT Public finance of Germany.
- 47HU German tariff.
- 47IB German police.
- 47IC Crime in Germany.
- 47IG Care of the poor in Germany.
- 47IK Education in Germany.
- 47IW German gymnasia.
- 47IX German colleges.
- 47IYR German technological schools.



- 47JT The German constitution.
- 47JU German politics.
- 47JV German national administration.
- 47JU German municipal government.
- 47K German legislation.
- 47KL German law.

*Natural Sciences.*

- 47N German flora.
- 47O German fauna.
- 48OX German lepidoptera.
- 47P German vertebrates.
- 47PE German birds.

*Fine Arts.*

- 47V German festivals.
- 47VT German theatre.
- 47VY German music.
- 47W German art.
- 47WC German galleries.
- 47WF German architecture.
- 47WOK German cathedrals.
- 47WJ German sculpture.
- 47WP German painting.
- 47WPT German landscape painting.
- 47WQC German wood engraving.
- 47WV German costume.

*Language and Literature.*

- 47X German philology.\*
- 47XB German inscriptions.
- Alternative 47VI.
- 47XC German language.
- 47XD German dictionaries.
- 47XE German etymology.
- 47XG German grammars.
- 47XI German nouns.
- 47XIC German cases.
- 47XJ German verbs.
- 47XJT German tenses.
- 47XL German syntax.
- 47XP German prosody.
- 47XR German dialects.
- 47XRP The Frankfort dialect.
- 47XS German slang.
- 47Y German literature.
- 47YD German drama.
- 47YP German poetry.
- 47ZY Literary history of Germany.
- 47ZYAF Lit. hist., Reformation period.
- 47ZYD History of German drama.
- 47ZYP History of German poetry.
- 47ZZ Bibliography of German literature.
- 47ZZAF Bibliography of Germ. lit., Reformation period.

- 47ZZD Bibliography of German drama.
- 47ZZP Bibliography of German poetry.
- And so on.

Any subdivision in the classification may be inserted in its proper place in this list. In a few instances a slight change in the notation may be advisable.

Some one may wish to keep the history of each branch of literature with that branch. For that purpose a simple notation would be :

- 47Y German literature.
- 47Y:Y History of German literature.
- 47Y:YAF History of Germ. lit., Reformation period.
- 47Y:Z Bibliography of German literature.
- 47YD German drama.
- 47YDY History of German drama.
- 47YDR Bibliography of German drama.
- 47YF German fiction.
- 47YFY History of German fiction.
- 47YFR Bibliography of German fiction.
- 47YP German poetry.
- 47YFY History of German poetry.
- 47YFR Bibliography of German poetry.
- 47YFZ Bibliography of Germ. poetry, classical period.

This provides for one demand of college libraries. There is, I am told, another need—that books be massed in departmental lines, often in departmental libraries. The E. C. notation with its large basis and consequent elasticity allows this. There are hosts of alternative arrangements suggested, by choice among which and by occasional change in the marking almost any scheme suited to any need can be constructed. The E. C. is not a rigid and unchangeable system, but rather a carefully constructed universal machine with interchangeable parts. I do not know what college professors desire, never having had any requests for changes in our order from professors in the college which uses our library; but if any college librarian will explain to me in detail what he wants to do—apparently they do not all want exactly the same thing—I think I can show him how his scheme can be constructed with the E. C. materials.

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N. B. — I am not recommending all of the local or all of the minuter classing above; I am merely showing that if any one wishes, it can easily be made with brief marks. Local classing is especially suitable in the Historical sciences, the Fine arts, and Language and Literature.

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\**i.e.* Language, Literature, and Archeology together.

## THE LIBRARY AND THE SMALL COLLEGE.

BY GEORGE T. LITTLE, *Librarian of Bowdoin College, Brunswick, Me.*

THE dictionaries say that a library is a collection of books. I employ the word to connote a collection of books that is used, used frequently by a considerable number of persons, used under the oversight and direction of a librarian who is not a mere keeper but a master of books. Books stored away are not a library. Books collected for the occasional use of a few scholars are not a library. Books selected with wisdom and merely set on shelves are not a library. For the purpose of this paper let library mean a collection of books plus the man who manages it, plus the men who use it.

It is harder to define the small college. The difficulty does not lie in the lack of them. The Commissioner of Education tells us that our country has, in round numbers, 500 colleges and universities. If those institutions are small that have less than 250 collegiate students, nine out of every ten of these are small. If we look at their productive funds and count those small that do not have an endowment of \$300,000, eight out of every ten are small. If we examine their curriculum and classify as small those giving no post-graduate instruction or not having a professional school attached, seven out of every ten are small.

Again, its locality sometimes makes a college small. In New England, the home of two old and richly endowed universities with upwards of a thousand under-graduate students, Bowdoin is classed a small college. Yet it has as many students and as ample an endowment as the University of Georgia, which no one would care to call small in this presence.

But my definition is not relative, varying with position and circumstance, nor is it concrete, depending on size, wealth, or curriculum. It is ideal. I can best express it by quoting a remark of Chief Justice Peters: "The Maine boy," he said, "should go to the Maine college. If he goes to Harvard or Yale he goes through more college, but if he comes to Bowdoin more college goes through him." The small college, then, is the institution that goes through a boy instead of having him go through it. It touches him vitally, rather than superficially. It per-

meates him. He is not the same boy afterward that he was before. He carries away somewhat of the spirit of the ideals, as well as of the learning of his alma mater. He carries this away, not merely outwardly in the form of a blue or scarlet flag to wave at football contests, but inwardly, in the guise of a certain hall mark on his character, not visible at first glance. In a word, the small college is that institution where the most students come into closest contact with their instructors, with each other, with the educational facilities, the traditions, and the ideals of the place.

Having shown that these two terms are used in a somewhat idealized sense, I trust you will accept more readily my thesis, which is this: *The library is the centre and soul of the small college.*

It is here that teachers and pupils meet on common ground as learners. Here there is a subtle spirit of sympathy and helpfulness that shuns the recitation-room. This is the laboratory for those numerous departments of instruction that deal with the knowledge of man as distinct from the knowledge of nature. It brings the undergraduate of to-day into relations with the alumnus of half a century, for it is the treasure house of old records, class albums, and among its most highly prized and carefully guarded alcoves is that devoted to the writings of graduates.

It is the place where the freshman comes to ask questions and knows he won't be "guyed." It is the place where the sophomore finds full sets of the student annuals and last year's baseball scores. It is the place where the junior delights to display his bibliographical knowledge to his girl friends. It is the place the senior is most loath to leave and misses most sorely on graduation. For here he has spent his spare moments most profitably. Here, serene and safe, he has looked forth upon the turmoils and troubles of the world, has read of wars and rumors of wars, has noted the perils and privations of explorers, has learned of the triumphs of science, has pondered the thoughts of sages, has rejoiced in the pictures of poets, has been transported by the

imagination of the novelist to every quarter of the globe and to every period of its history. In a word, the library is the exceeding high mountain whence the young man can see all the kingdoms of the earth.

I don't dare to say that the tempter never enters, but I do say there is at hand for the soul's nurture and guidance heavenly manna. "Poesy serveth and conferreth to magnanimity, morality, and delectation; and, therefore, it was ever thought to bear some participation of divineness because it doth raise and erect the mind."

The men he meets here are the men who can show him that food. No more difficult and delicate task can be conceived; no more fruitful and blessed one when performed aright. For college boys, who can better perform it than college professors? If worthy of their place they must have an acquaintance with the literature of power, as well as that of knowledge. Theirs are the words, which, fitly spoken, are most likely to prove apples of gold in pictures of silver. Casual encounters at the library shelves, simple questions asked and answered, confidential talks, bits of friendly counsel, are all links in an inconspicuous chain which binds teachers and students in helpful relations and hands down that love of truth, reverence for the right, and spirit of brotherhood which is the basis of all real progress.

In this elaboration of my thesis I have used the indicative mood. Confidentially, I must confess that exactness, if not truth itself, demands the potential mood. I am reminded of the curt and apposite remark of an old lady, whose family relations were not noted for harmony or happiness, on her way home from a sermon in which the preacher had drawn a vivid and entrancing picture of the love that ought to exist between husband and wife: "Now," said she to a neighbor, "between you and me and the bedpost, oughter ain't the same as is." We who have charge of college libraries are by no means confident that they are the centre and soul of our respective institutions. We are forced to replace the *is* by *ought to*, by *may be*, by *is to be*, if this or that happens. Yet no one of us would be recreant to our heart's ideal, whether shadowy or distinct. Dissatisfied with our attainments, we are not cast down by our failures. With Browning, we hold that "we fall to rise, are baffled to fight better, sleep to

wake," and "at noonday in the bustle of man's worktime, greet the unseen with a cheer."

For those, then, to whom such an ideal library has attractions, I wish to set forth three principles or lines of effort that I believe conducive to the desired result.

The first duty of the librarian who means that his library shall be the centre of his college is to make it accessible. The library building ought to be the most conveniently situated of all the college structures. It should be the local as well as the intellectual centre. Over this the librarian rarely has control. The past has decided its position. He can, however, greatly lessen any disadvantages to which he may be subjected in this direction. An out-of-the-way place open at all hours is as convenient as a central one open half the time. Even at the cost of self-denial, be liberal in fixing the periods at which the library can be consulted. There is nothing the average human being enjoys more than the privilege of doing a thing when he feels like it. If the athletic freshman only feels like visiting the library about once a term, and that immediately after breakfast, let him find it open. You may thereby gain a patron before the four years have passed.

It is not, however, merely the open door, but the open book, that should welcome the newcomer. To make the *books* really accessible is the task that tests the librarian's ability. The first step, I believe, is free access to the shelves. If not to all the shelves, at the least to those on which are placed not alone the usual books of reference, but a careful selection of the best books upon all subjects. It is unwise, as well as dangerous, to lay down any rule in such a matter, yet, I think I am justified in saying that any college library that does not offer free access to as many volumes as it annually circulates sins against the principles of modern library science. Books are to be used. Students learn how to use them by using them. Every time they go to the shelves, take down a half-dozen books on the same subject, glance at their contents and select the one they think best suited for their purpose, they are performing an important operation toward the end in view. This tasting before one eats cannot be done by proxy. The hand of the attendant and the moments of time intervening between the seeker and the books serve to check or to prevent this use of a college library.

If the first step toward accessibility is physical, the second is intellectual, and of correspondingly greater importance. To be really accessible, the books must be well arranged and well cataloged. We have already discussed classification. I content myself with expressing two thoughts on the general subject. Any arrangement not provided with a scheme for numbering books so that the accessions will stand in close proximity to previously purchased books on the same subject is a delusion and a snare. To put it technically, modern library science calls for movable location. The other thought is a word of caution against a hasty decision to change the method of classification already in use in the library. An enthusiastic librarian, realizing the advantages that will follow from a better arrangement, undertakes it sometimes without counting the cost. It is a serious task to reclassify and renumber twenty or thirty thousand volumes when any considerable portion of them are either old or in foreign languages. Provided the work is done with reasonable thoroughness, it is almost sure to require twice the time and labor estimated. I am almost tempted to say that unless one is certain of maintaining his position, his health, and his enthusiasm for a period of ten years, he ought never to attempt the reclassification of the library under his charge. By this reference to ten years, I do not mean to recommend the common practice of doing the task piecemeal, here a little and there a little, and finding even at the end of a decade some odds and ends with the old numbers. Having reclassified a library of 35,000 volumes while it was growing at the rate of 1500 volumes a year, by giving up seven or eight summer vacations and working my cataloger to the verge of nervous prostration, experience enables me to testify that this is not the best method.

When it becomes a librarian's duty to reclassify—and I believe that often it is a necessary step toward vitalizing the collection—let him, after a few months of testing and preparation, employ at once sufficient assistance to allow him to carry out his plans in a reasonable time.

Another essential to the intellectual accessibility of a college library is a good catalog. Wherever there is a careful arrangement of books, free access to the shelves, and less than 20,000 volumes, its importance is somewhat lessened. But if the student cannot help him-

self to the books, you must give him at the least an author catalog; if your classification is not fairly minute, you must add subject entries; when you have more than 20,000 volumes expensive mistakes of duplication will occur and unpardonable gaps will arise in the collection without a well-made and carefully kept up card catalog. Yet, I venture to say that in the equipment of the small colleges there are few things rarer than a good catalog. The reason lies mainly in the cost. A catalog for a college library, properly made and maintained, requires the continued exercise of both brains and technical training. Many smaller institutions can pay for and get these qualities a part of the time, few all the time. Occasionally, when the library is not large, the desire for a printed catalog results in a considerable expenditure upon type and paper which is of only temporary serviceableness. Thus one generally finds in visiting smaller college libraries either a badly worn, interleaved printed catalog, or a card catalog begun on an elaborate scale, but with the entries for the difficult works reserved for a "more convenient season," and those for the current accessions presenting an irregular line of advance, the popular books being in sight, but the miscellaneous gifts being in the rear.

In nothing have we college librarians fallen so far behind the times in the spirit of library progress as in our failure to co-operate in cataloging. One of our number, Professor Otis H. Robinson, set forth its advantages and possibilities nearly 25 years ago, but, with several notable and well-known exceptions, neither in the co-operative indexing of periodicals, which has been carried on so successfully by Mr. Fletcher, nor in the co-operative cataloging of new books, which is languishing for the lack of pecuniary support, have college libraries been especially prominent. It sometimes seems as if their poverty not only prevented favorable action, but also careful consideration of the matter. For instance, a few years since I found a teacher in charge of a college library of 15,000 volumes making a subject index of articles in the *North American*, the *Forum*, and similar periodicals, for the especial use of students in preparing for debates. I suggested the purchase of Poole's Index, and the supplementary volumes. "Oh," replied he, "that would cost at least \$20, and we cannot afford it." He was paid a meagre salary,

and yet I venture to assert that he spent more than fifty dollars worth of time upon his index, which was of only temporary usefulness, for his successor neglected it.

For five years an effort has been made with the support of the Publishing Section to supply printed catalog cards of new books as they are issued. My library is one of 28 that subscribe. We find that satisfactory cards are furnished us promptly at a less cost than we could make typewritten cards equally accurate. But on examining these cards of the new books, we find a striking absence of certain titles which a college library will need. In the list of books published by Macmillan in January and February, I note 50 volumes of which I would like catalog cards. I find cards for only 13. The fault is not in the system but in the subscribers, for on further inquiry I learn that only three other college libraries buy these cards, and necessarily our needs cannot justly influence the selection of books to be cataloged. It is my strong belief that only by co-operation can the small college libraries ever become well cataloged.

Having made his library in every sense accessible, it remains for the librarian to render it attractive. The few expedients to which I shall briefly call your attention are not of equal importance, and may not commend themselves to you as especially practical. Newly published books as distinct from old ones have a hold upon many frequenters of libraries. They quickly turn aside from a book whose exterior alone has grown familiar, to seize one whose fresh cover proclaims its recent issue. These people, when in a listless mood, are apt to go away saying that there is nothing new in the library, in case your scanty accessions are at once put in their assigned places. So for them and for that smaller group who really wish to see all that is added, it is well to place the new books, temporarily, on certain shelves near the entrance.

The college library is for education rather than for entertainment. Yet its attractiveness for the student body is greatly increased by the presence of a few popular novels. "The raiders," "The refugees," "The prisoner of Zenda," do not hold such a place in English literature that they can claim entrance, but they will bring you readers who would never come to ask for "Rob Roy," "The Virginians,"

or "Pride and prejudice." Without in the least trespassing upon the functions of the private circulating library, I believe it lawful for the college librarian to call attention to his more serious wares by allowing "Mr. Dooley" and "David Harum" to be occasionally seen in the neighborhood.

There is a subtle charm to the private library of a man of wealth and culture. It lies, I think, in the fact that the books have been carefully selected without regard to price and placed in a cosy and comfortable room where they are always at home. Now, under favorable circumstances, this attractiveness can be given to one room in a college library by carrying out the idea of a small standard library of literature composed of books the best in every sense, an idea which Mr. Foster set forth so exhaustively last year in a number of the *Providence Public Library Bulletin*. Pleasure as well as profit cannot fail to come from the use of a collection which gives a unique combination of personal choice with authoritative selection.

Accessibility and attractiveness will make the library the centre of the institution. Do they necessarily render it the soul of the college? I think not. To attain our ideal we must have the library stand for knowledge and helpfulness. While in a measure both of these should characterize every department of the college, their flowering will be both natural and efficacious in the library. But they will not blossom without personal influence and example. The librarian himself must possess the scholar's love of thoroughness with the Christian's enthusiasm for humanity. If he has enough of either quality, his helpers will catch the contagion. But who of us is so conceited as to think our leaven sufficient for the whole loaf? We must have coadjutors. They are not far to seek. No college faculty is so small that it has not at least one true scholar whose love of research has not dried up his spirit of helpfulness. No college town is so small as not to include some cultured man of leisure, whose aid and advice will be cheerfully given to any college lad with whom he is brought in contact. If the frequent presence in the library of men of these two types can be secured, the necessary forces are at hand. The battle may not yet be won, but victory is assured. The library will be the centre and soul of that small college,

## THE LIBRARY ASSISTANT: HIS TITLE, DUTIES, AND RELATION TO HIS CHIEF.

BY JAMES KENDALL HOSMER, *Librarian Minneapolis (Minn.) Public Library.*

TO propitiate the spirit of the moment, let the exordium of my remarks be a naval figure. On the tumultuous sea of a great city's life, the public library, with its branches, stations, and sub-stations swims like the squadron of an admiral, and the enemy which it forever combats may be described as vacant-mindedness. This vacancy of mind is a thing of protean shapes: now it is the dearth of knowledge, felt by the man of scholarly tastes; now it is the ennui of the fashionable lady, coveting a time-killer between the ball of last night and the opera of to-night; now it is the soul-hunger of the child with eyes just opening upon a world quite unknown; now it is the ignorance of the man of affairs which must be done away with if this and that business scheme is to be pushed to success. Vacant-mindedness has many shapes; but whatever shape it takes, it is always in an American community a desperately aching void, and confronts its antagonist, the public library, with an omnipresent and unsleeping energy that makes needful every resource. The squadron, besides its commander, must have its fleet-captain, chief-of-staff, chief assistant; a head also for each department; and crews larger or smaller of catalogers, desk attendants, reference-clerks, delivery-men, messengers, and janitors. If the campaign of the library is to be effectual, the places from commander down must be properly filled; every hand must know its work and be zealous in it.

Since every proper assistant hopes to stand at some time in the chief place—is, in fact, a chief librarian in the making, and is always, if he be suitably ambitious, bettering his equipment with that end in view—it is right to ask, at the outset, what the chief librarian should be. Not long since I saw him described substantially as follows: He should, first of all, possess firm health. He should have wide knowledge of men and women, and the power of meeting them with firmness and good-nature. He should have seen the world in various lands through having been to some extent a rolling-stone; provincialism should be polished off from him, his back should possess no lodgment of moss.

He should be an administrator, with lively initiative tempered by cool judgment, with a sharp eye for the qualities that tell in the men and women whose work he directs, with persistency tempered by geniality in pushing a policy, with all screws so far from being loose that to rattle him shall be out of the question. He must be a man of thorough academic education, able to read, if not to speak, the great ancient and modern tongues, and as widely read as possible in all literatures. Morally, he must be possessed of lamb-like patience, of lion-like courage, of sunny spirit, of invincible push. The ideal librarian, in fact, should possess wings that drag on the floor. Among poultry of the celestial kind, if he be fully equipped for his work, not Gabriel himself will surpass him in the splendor of his feathers—and all this fine plumage he must be prepared to prink and trim usually upon a very modest stipend.

Since every assistant is potentially a chief and aspires to be a chief, let the assistant have in his eye some such figure as this. But while chiefhood, so to speak, remains in abeyance, what, precisely, is the assistant's field? To recur to the naval figure, in large operations, beside the admiral must always be the fleet captain, chief-of-staff, first assistant; and the chief-of-staff is often scarcely less important than the commander himself. Gneisenau, indeed, in the belief of many, made Blücher; Moltke certainly made the princelings who were in the foreground in the wars of '66 and '70: just so I believe there are fleet-captains that have made admirals, and first assistants who have made librarians. To try to distinguish between the spheres of the librarian and the first assistant, perhaps we may say that the former should be occupied by grand strategy—the latter with tactics. In his warfare against the vacant-mindedness about him, the void that ever aches and keeps him forever on the alert, the chief librarian must take the broad view. In his arsenal of books what deficiencies need to be made good that his fire may be well sustained: where shall he put his branches and stations that assault may be most quickly and

effectively met? How shall he replenish the stock of information in his own mind, knowledge growing from more to more, day by day, as it does; and what time can he find to be productive himself, working to stimulate the better tastes of his community, to supply information, to add prestige to his institution by making it a centre of scholarship and worthy literary accomplishment? With all this, certainly the hands and the mind of the librarians will be well filled. It is indispensable that he should have at his side one whose function shall be to care for the thousand details of administration, the tactics; and if at the same time that one be a man or woman, broad and keen, capable of surveying the strategic plane and of giving advice in the larger field, it will simply be in accordance with the precedents of the great chiefs of staff, who at the right hand of commanders have been of momentous weight in crises.

As to assistants of lower grade, for each there is the round of duties, narrow or broad, to be fulfilled; but I should say the hope of reaching the highest place should never be lost sight of. A footing once gained in a large library, let no subordinate forget that before fidelity and capacity his path will widen toward the top. And here it is in place to speak of a certain discouragement that seems inevitable in the position of an employe in a large library. I remember once, in the great starch factory at Oswego, I saw a company of young women who had acquired astonishing dexterity in doing up packages of starch. Their fingers as they worked were scarcely visible; in a second or two of time the product was properly enclosed and labelled for the market. My guide said these girls did nothing but this; every other part of the manufacture was as unknown to them as if they were strangers in the factory. This very dexterity was a bar to any enlargement of their sphere of work. It was to the interest of the Kingsfords that they should be kept at the one thing, this deftness increasing all the time through the limitation, but with a sacrifice of all breadth of training.

Political economists have often noticed the trouble which comes in factory life from a close division of labor, each worker having his own little task at which he becomes infinitely dexterous, but knowing nothing else. Division of labor is pushed sometimes to such an extent as

to produce even physical deformity. One set of muscles becomes abnormally developed while another set withers—the fingers become quick while the legs shrink. In a large library something approaching this is quite possible. The capable assistant, aspiring to a broad efficiency, feels that it is a misfortune to him to be kept to one task; that it would be far better for his training if he could change his work, discharging in turn each one in the various round of labors. In practice, however, what inevitably comes to pass? A writes a faultless hand, and has a marked spirit of neatness and system. In utilizing his staff the library head, having in view the good of the institution, naturally assigns A to the catalog. B has poise, a ready smile, firmness, combined with a quick eye and prompt mind; B therefore goes naturally to the issue desk. C, having dealt much with books, and possessing a retentive memory, has become deeply read; C goes to the reference-room. D, self-reliant and full of executive force, will, it is likely, be charged with the direction of a branch. A, B, C, and D, once placed, may find it no easy thing to get away from their respective spheres. As years go by the natural aptitude of each becomes more and more fully developed. The little groove of the first month becomes a well defined rut. In his rut the assistant becomes skilful, but his very skill operates to his detriment. With a helper of such marked efficiency in the place, it is not economy to employ there anybody else.

Every head of a large library, I suppose, is more or less beset with petitions from those of his staff who feel that they are side-tracked in corners or lost in these ruts, who weary of the monotony of their tasks, and long to develop in other work powers almost untried. If the librarian, however, is disposed to yield to the pressure, straightway from the head cataloger, from the superintendent of circulation, or the superintendent of branches, comes remonstrance: "Smooth running of the library machine requires that A, B, C, and D shall each stay in his place. To break in new people will cause embarrassment; they themselves, though highly skilled in one way, in other ways are but tyros, and must be broken in with loss of time and patience."

I believe I do not exaggerate the matter. As in a great factory, so in a large library, the most economical utilization of the forces

of the employees seems sometimes to require a sacrifice of the individual, for whom rounded symmetry of growth is better than one-sidedness. Many an assistant in a large library has doubtless felt he has had no fair chance, and very likely may have reached the opinion that, as a training-school, a small library is really to be preferred, where work of all kinds must be done; just as I have heard a great banker say that, for a business training, a cross-roads country store was vastly better than a huge city establishment. I can think of no way for fully meeting this difficulty. The welfare of the employees in a large library must perforce be a secondary consideration, the first demand being the efficient and economical service of the public. Something may be done by a well organized system of staff meetings. If these can be regularly held—say once a week during six months of the year—the heads imparting each one the lore of the department which he superintends, the subordinates giving time out of hours to learning the tasks with which, in the daily routine, they have no concern, certainly something can be done toward a well rounded development. Important incidents of such a system of meetings are the fostering in the members of the staff of friendly acquaintance, the springing up of *esprit du corps*, the knitting of the links necessary to proper co-operation. The large library lacks an important, indeed an indispensable thing, which does not make provision for an efficient system of staff meetings.

Let the assistant aspire always to the high places of the profession, and always keep in view the great ideals. And here let me combat for a moment a conception of the librarian's character, which in my judgment is incorrect, and which, if it prevails, I believe will effect seriously the dignity of our profession. Talking not long since with the librarian of a large library in his office, an office which had few suggestions of books, and might as well have been the office of a banker or manufacturer, he told me that his work was purely administrative. Passing judgment upon books, their selection, classification, cataloging, as well as charging and discharging at the desk—all these functions were in the hands of subordinates. Nor had he time to study or write in any line, his energies being quite absorbed in executive work—the control of his large staff, the oversight of a widely extended and highly compli-

cated system of distribution, the receipt and expenditure of large funds. The librarian referred to did not think it right that his energies should be thus exclusively absorbed in administration; it was, however, in his case, inevitable.

I am old-fashioned enough to feel it will be a sad day for our profession when the qualities required in the high places are for the most part the same qualities required for the successful running of a department store. It has been asserted that librarianship had come to that—that it was quite a secondary consideration whether or not the librarian should be a bookish man. Heretofore the heroes of our profession have been a Lessing, librarian at Wolfenbüttel, greatest scholar and critic of his time, giving to the world while discharging his office the "Education of the human race," and "Nathan the Wise"; a David Hume, librarian of the Advocates' Library at Edinburgh, while busy in his place, ranking as the soundest philosopher and best historian of Scotland; a Justin Winsor, while librarian at Boston and Cambridge, rising to be the first authority in America in his great field; a William F. Poole, librarian at Boston, Cincinnati, and Chicago, at the same time in each great city leading as critic and antiquarian. Or to refer to honored men still living who, however, greatly to the loss of our calling, have laid down their professional burden, I point to Richard Garnett, Keeper of Printed Books in the British Museum, and always prolific in the directions of biography and the choicest belles lettres; and to Joseph N. Larned, librarian at Buffalo, but becoming in the widest and profoundest sense a scholar as regards the records of human achievement.

Heretofore such men as these have been our cynosures. Has the time arrived when such ideals are superseded—when the model librarian shall be chiefly a man of affairs, a man to run a department store, while erudition and literary capability are matters of small account? One would say that it was a good thing to have at the head of a large library a man who by achieving something in the realm of literature had gained among his fellows a position of some authority—who naturally would be looked up to to direct in choosing books and following out courses of reading—who placed as he would be at the intellectual centre of his city might be a spring out from whom should flow a constant, if not always, perceptible stream



of influence, working directly, and also in a thousand subtle ways, for the refinement of taste, the propagation of true learning, the bringing to pass in general of sweetness and light. One would say that capability of this sort should count as much looking toward high position as the kind of capability that provides for the introduction of automobiles and the wireless telegraph in the delivery system at the most expedient time, that the heaviest possible discount shall be knocked off the bills of the bookseller, that the staff, while lavish of skill and labor, shall be always low-salaried and yet always good-natured.

It is not necessary to feel, however, that the scholarly and the administrative faculties cannot be combined in one man. It is much to ask,

but as the world evolves, higher and higher becomes the type of man demanded. To recur again to the navy, the distinction between the officers of the line and the engineers has been abrogated; the captain must be able to run the machinery, the engineer must be capable of commanding the ship. The great librarian must have the executive, and also the bookish gifts. There have been such librarians; there will be such librarians hereafter; what is demanded will be provided. If, however, it were the case that such gifts were incompatible, and that in the need for capable administration, scholarship and literary taste should come to be held of small account, the dignity of our profession would be lowered most unfortunately.

## STATISTICS AND REPORTS.

BY ELECTRA C. DOREN, *Librarian Dayton (O.) Public Library.*

THE annual report of a library is the definitive, official statement of its status and workings issued by the governing body for the information of the public and the profession and as the permanent annals of the institution. Whether it is valuable and authoritative or not must depend upon a number of things, such as the choice of statistical headings, the accuracy with which the figures under them have been gathered and tabulated, and the proper linking together and interpretation of the facts thus collected.

Library statistics represent an effort to reduce to common business terms, by means of figures, the net results of the library's operations for a given period. Properly to supplement these, to vitalize and illuminate them, as it were, requires in the mind of the librarian a clearly conceived notion of the immediate purpose which that particular report is to serve. Without a directing motive the report is dead from the start. Without a keen sense of the significance of statistics, and without, at the same time, a guarding sense of their insufficiency, a report may be turned out which, though costing much labor, will be lame and ineffective, possibly directly damaging to the library's interests.

The form and essential contents of library statistics have already been ably discussed,

and the general lines which they shall follow practically resolved and determined upon in the A. L. A. committee report of 1876 (L. J. 1: 429). The text of the annual report, its purpose, and something of the process of constructing it, has also been admirably presented in Miss Garland's paper at the Cleveland conference, 1896 (L. J. 21: 656). Aside from inviting a renewed interest in these two important discussions, this paper will concern itself with the minor particulars of statistics and reports under two heads: 1, statistics; 2, text. Under the head of statistics, method in gathering and tabulating will be considered, and under text the make-up and general arrangement of the parts of the annual report, including range and propriety of subject matter. And as regards these points I shall only hope to introduce the subject and throw out a few hints by the way upon the purposes and underlying principles as they have appeared to me.

In respect to statistics, then, we have first clearly to distinguish between the things which can be measured and those which are of such nature that they may not be measured, reserving matters of time and quantity for the "figures" to tell, and for the text the more intangible things in which quality, spirit, and tendency are felt. Having respect to the things which are not seen, we are to set about taking the dimensions

of the things which are seen, in order that we may discern the relationship, if any, between them. In other words, we are to be able more truly to trace cause and effect in the ordinary operations of the library and to start our policy of administration from the ground of actual and existing fact. This is the sole, and, as it seems to me, the sufficient excuse for statistics.

The essential statistics of a library, briefly stated, are all those that enter into the final account of it as property and from which a correct estimate of use as proportioned to expenditure may be deduced. At the foundation of the statistics are the primary records of the library, such as the accession and loan records, shelf list, and account of receipts and disbursements. The form and accuracy with which each of these is kept and also the system of charging and classification in use will control the possibility of ascertaining certain facts, as well as the final accuracy of the statements themselves.

In respect to the form of statistical tables and the choice of subject headings, they should be made to facilitate rapidity of calculation and clearness of statement. Figures under any given head must be gathered directly from items and should show date of gathering. Every possible chance for confusion of items or misstatement is to be carefully guarded at each step of the proceedings. The possible combinations of any groups of facts and consequent conclusions therefrom cannot be apparent until tabulation is complete. Upon this point and the choice of headings a practical statistician in the Massachusetts Bureau of Labor Statistics says: "Your questions taken together must *tell* something. The tabulation will display the weakness or strength of your chain of reasoning."

Library statistics form the basis for comparing the institution with itself at different stages and with others of like character, and they may constitute conclusive evidence for or against any given policy of administration. As one of the gauges of public usefulness and of growth or decline of the library and as furnishing arguments in a tangible form for the existence of any given features of it, they are of an importance not to be overlooked. This is particularly true when it comes to answering the practical questions of a board of trustees whose business it is to justify and to apportion the expendi-

tures of the library and to relate it to the rest of the economic world and the sources of its support. Uniformity from year to year in statistical headings and tables, consistent, of course, with expanding conditions which may require additional headings, is extremely necessary, as otherwise a large part of their value for purposes of comparison is destroyed.

The statistical method—that is, the application of figures to the collecting and massing of data at first hand from original items—is applicable and valuable in many parts of library work. Such inquiries, for instance, as regards the life of books of a given make-up in respect to binding and paper, the loss of books due to public access to shelves, and questions of like character may best be handled in this way. It has been found of service, too, in matters of executive advice; for instance, in the report and tally of errors in a given department of work. Thus positive proof and not mere conjecture or opinion as to the usefulness of clerks and assistants may be arrived at. If the assistant has the benefit of seeing this report upon his work it may have a corrective tendency, furnishing, as it does, in fair and definite and impersonal form, the necessary rebuke for carelessness or inefficiency.

In respect to the text of the annual report, very much of its usefulness as a handy book of information depends upon the arrangement of the different classes of subject matter under specific and uniformly worded captions. The constitution and by-laws under which the library works, as well as the report of what the library is doing, must naturally govern this general form and arrangement; but succinct, formal and exactly descriptive statement are always desiderata in title and caption. In general, then, the make-up of the report should have respect to the inclusion of all the essential facts in the constitution, government and workings of the library placed in as nearly logical order as possible.

Notwithstanding the excellent advices of the past in regard to the compilation of library reports, lack of uniformity, careless editing and vagueness of statement in minor particulars have not wholly disappeared from many otherwise valuable and interesting reports. For the sake of emphasis mention of some of these deficiencies may be made. The title-page should state the name of the institution as legally in-

corporated, the name of the place and state where situated, the number and frequency of the report and the period covered by it. There should be a list of contents at the beginning, either on the back of the title-page or upon the first recto following it. Following the table of contents should appear the names of the present governing board and officers, the term for which each is elected to serve, the name of the chief executive of the library and the names of his staff, the hours and days on which the library is open.

Historic matter, such as list of former trustees, acts or amendments of legislature establishing the library and defining powers of the board of trustees, etc., may be compiled at stated intervals, say every five or ten years, and should properly find place in the library report, as well as a complete list of the library's publications.

After the names of the trustees, staff, etc., should come the introductory report or letter of transmittal, as the case may be, of the board of trustees. If the board has a treasurer, his report comes next; then the librarian's report, text first, followed by statistical tables and list of donors. There should be a running caption for each page. In case there is no treasurer the librarian makes the financial report, and as being of first importance it should precede all other tables. Where income is received from taxation it would save a multitude of inquiries if, in the latter, the rate of taxation on the dollar valuation and amount of the tax duplicate could be stated.

The text or explanatory matter of the annual report is, in its way, as important as the figures, and is much more usable and effective if it is carefully paragraphed and each set of facts is emphasized by separate caption, however brief the statement of them may be.

It would be interesting and instructive to hear from those present what they most wish to find in the library reports which they receive. For my own part, just now, I like to know about binding, building arrangements, special work in any line opened for the first time by the library, individual efforts in library extension and organization, and also of the internal administration of departments, staff, etc. Of

course prolixity is a danger to be avoided at all times and everywhere. The choice of miscellaneous subject matter for the annual report is for each librarian to decide each year. An annual report should be something more than the bald and merely definitive statement of the status of the institution and of the things done by it within the period. It should by all means impart the *spirit* of the workings, carrying in solution, as it were, the aim of the governing body; making felt the movement and trend of the library's work in the community. In the presentment of the report, this is largely a matter of English and a due regard for the ordinary laws of composition. Officially the report is formal, categorical even; yet, after all, it is no mere category, and not mere annals to be filed for the future antiquarian. If an institution is anything, it is organic and of present concern. The report should show this. There is a beginning, a middle, and an end; and these are to be arranged with idea of unity toward purposes dynamic in the library's immediate development. To sum it up, the animating principle of composition, the gist as to the construction of a report lies in the following elements: (1) Integrity of fact, that is true statistics running back into true foundation records; (2) a full array of all the facts; (3) philosophic treatment; (4) definiteness of aim.

Even if nobody ever read an annual report, the librarian would have to subject himself to the discipline of collecting statistics and interpreting them. For it is in this way that he brings himself face to face with results as they stand in masses; and with the issues thus set before him, he must extract from the situation, for good or ill, all the elements of persuasion which it contains. He must be a seer as well as a doer. At regular intervals and also at certain stages of his work he must take stock of intentions and tendencies as evidenced by explicit figures. He has to get on the outside and view the library as if it were any other business establishment, and from such a point of view forecast future policy. In this aspect of the subject, the annual report is now, and may be more than it has yet been, a professional incentive as well as a professional discipline.

how she buys. A librarian, in order to be a success, must be acquainted, and thoroughly so, with the business world, its methods and rules, its requirements and privileges. A librarian may be in close touch with her readers, she may have an elaborate system of cataloging and classification, but if her reports come up to the library board in a slipshod, confused state, bearing signs of a lack of what is termed business sense, her standing with them is imperilled, and where a librarian has lost the admiration of her board her influence in that field is at an end.

When a business house receives an order for goods, well prepared, clear as to what is wanted, definite as to price and carriage, it takes a real pleasure in filling it, and, because of its clearness, time is saved to both the buyer and the seller, which to the latter, at least, is always money.

One of the weak places in the woman librarian's equipment is a lack of generous charity for what she considers the professional failings of others in the work. If one weak place in the armor of a fellow-worker is discovered, like a knight of old, she fastens her attention on that alone, despite the fact that there may be 50 strong points beside it, and even the weakness under the direction of its possessor may not be so glaring a fault as it appears in the eyes of the faultfinder. Think only of the good points, look for them, and do not let any one else know that you see where the shortcomings lie, and after a while you will not be quite sure that you saw them yourself. There is room for good workers always, and water will find its level. Hunt for the good things in other people's libraries, and it will not be long until the often expressed opinion of men, that women in business are jealous of each other's success, will die out for want of material to support it.

If there is a particular part of library work that you find more congenial than another, work toward reaching it, and if you are properly fitted for it the chances of its coming to you are decidedly increased. But, if you undertake to do something else, the fact of its not being your choice has no bearing on the performance of it in the very best way possible, and here comes in the question of salary. Women in business are accused, and not without cause, of

slighting their work because the salary is not commensurate with the duties which they are called on to perform. Have a distinct understanding before beginning work as to what you are to receive for your work, and then do it the very best you are able. If you find that you have sufficient reason for being dissatisfied with the remuneration speak to the proper persons about it, and then abide honorably by the decision. One has no right by shirking his legitimate work to cast reproach on the whole body of workers. If you are at the head of affairs make it a point to tell definitely, and in good season, what those about you may depend upon both as to positions and salaries. It is said that women managers are too apt to consider such things as personal matters, and are weak in dealing with them. It is just as much the right of an assistant to know definitely about these things as it is for the President of the United States to know of his term and salary.

In the correspondence which brings requests for employment I have seen a disposition to do certain things which form the reasons of labor unions. I refer to the practice of cutting under the salary received by the majority for certain work. Librarians as a class are paid less than school teachers, while their work is about on the same basis. This is, in a large measure, the fault of librarians themselves. They do not work on this problem in harmony, and there is still too much "influence" back of giving places. I have my doubts about sending for a position the name of a girl who is willing to work for nearly nothing, for I cannot help thinking that her talents are not in demand in the market, or else she does not intend to carry out her contract, and her work will amount to about the same as the salary she asks.

Librarianship is a delightful and helpful field for work to those who will rise to its possibilities, but there is no room for thoughtless, indifferent posing here, as there is nowhere else. An army of noble women have done heroic work in opening the doors of the business world to their sisters; it is an obligation resting on every woman who enters these doors to add something to the credit of the army, and it is little less than criminal to detract from the reputation so hardly earned of being faithful, conscientious workers.

## BOOK SELECTION, BUYING, AND BINDING.

BY DR. G. E. WIRE, *Worcester County Law Library, Worcester, Mass.*

**B**OOK selection is a most entrancing, and may be made a most extravagant piece of work. If the library is entirely new there seems no limit to the lines of knowledge which are demanded; if there is some stock of books on hand, the rounding up and filling out with new books is even more difficult. And in both cases the money is liable to be limited. In some cases there is a sum of money to be wholly expended on books at the very first. This, if anywhere proportionate to the size of the library, gives a good start. In most cases, however, an entirely fresh start has to be made, which is, on the whole, the better way.

Remember first and foremost that Rome was not built in a day; that no library ever burst full fledged on an expectant public. The library is an artificial person, a corporation which does not get sick and never dies. What it cannot buy this year it may buy next year or year after next, or five years hence. Here is where it differs from a private individual, for, like Tennyson's brook, it "goes on forever." So do not be alarmed, excited, or discouraged because you cannot get everything at once. Many things can bear to wait. Look out for the agent who tries to impose on you by saying that you cannot again have a chance to buy at this price. He is looking for just such game. As librarians and trustees, by examining catalogs, first-hand, second-hand, and auction, you soon learn that books are perennial. There is no book printed which cannot be bought at practically your own reasonable price a year from to-day as well as to-day. It makes no sort of difference what the agent tells you to the contrary.

Second. As a general thing, buy the latest and freshest things first. The great demand will be for fiction, and the fiction habitués will want more than they deserve. If their demands were fully met it would mean all the latest novels and many copies of each. As it is, we make large concessions to this class, but they must not monopolize the book fund.

Buy current sociology, light science, useful arts, fine arts, literature, history, biography, travels. Then as you have opportunity, go back and buy second-hand and auction books

to fill gaps. One library that I know is 25 years old and 20,000 volumes strong, and only within the last few years has it begun to buy auction and second-hand books.

Third. Beware of bad advice. Look out for the local man who has a hobby and the trustee who wants to fill up the library on his particular line. In one library of 5000 volumes I found enough evolution for a library of 25,000 volumes. Why? Because one of the trustees was much interested in it. Look out for the local clergyman, lawyer, or doctor who tries to get his own technical books bought at the expense of the public. I do not believe in a small library, or any library short of 50,000 volumes, buying professional books. Of the three, I think the clergyman is liable to be most tempted and to bear the most watching. He or the "literary man" will want the "classics"—say of history, like Grote's "Greece," 12 volumes, listing at \$18, and Gibbon's "Rome," eight volumes, at \$12. Now, the small library can well afford to do without these, for a time, at least. They are both period histories, do not give the complete history of either nation, and require to be supplemented by other books, and this puts too much money into the bygone empires of Greece and Rome. But they are just the books to be recommended because they are "classics," or because the wise(?) man never heard of any others (and he never read even the first volume of these, much less later, fresher, and more reliable works), or because he may want them some time (which time never comes), or because he wants to appear wise and learned. I never knew anybody who read them, and in many libraries you will find vol. 1 more or less worn, while the leaves of the later volumes have not even been cut open.

Another thing about the older books, the classics, they frequently come in by gift. A 50-year-old edition of Gibbon or Hume is just as good, and generally better, in paper, print, and binding than the edition of to-day.

These cliques, hobbies, and fads, in or outside of the library board, deserve close watching, and require much diplomacy to get around without offending anybody.

Fourth. Beware of expensive books. Let me give you some examples from two lists of this present year, each with some authority back of it. One of them wants a village library to buy such books as these:

Cheyne and Black, *Encyclopædia Biblica*, 4 v., \$16.

Oman, *History of the art of war in the Middle Ages*, from the 4th to the 14th century, \$4.50.

Webb, *Industrial democracy*, 2 v., \$6.

Scott, *Bird studies: land birds of eastern North America*, \$5.

Brandes, *William Shakespere*, 2 v., net, \$8.

Dill, *Roman society in the last century of Roman Empire*, net, \$4.

Kemp, *Nine years at the gold coast*, \$5.

Pickering, *Pioneering in Formosa*, \$6.

Corbet, *Drake and the Tudor Navy*, 2 v., \$10.

Brown, *First republic in America*, \$7.50.

Bismarck, *the man and the statesman*, 2 v., \$7.50.

Muntz, *Leonardo Da Vinci*, 2 v., net, \$15.

The other list recommends the *Polychrome Bible*, at an average price of \$2 per part;

Armstrong, *Gainsborough and his place in English art*, \$25.

Day, *Windows: stained and painted glass*, \$10.50.

Frazer, *Literary history of India*, \$4.

Vondel, *Lucifer*, \$5.

Busch, *Bismarck*, 2 v., \$10.

Ward, *Life and times of Cardinal Newman*, 2 v., \$10.

Landor, *In the forbidden land*, 2 v., \$9.

Vivian, *Servia*, \$4.

These are all far too expensive for any library of less than 15,000 volumes, or an income less than \$6000 a year. They lock up too much of your money in one or two volumes which will be but little used, and are not, properly speaking, reference books. All this time there are dozens of books on much more wanted subjects to be had at \$1, \$1.50, and \$2 a volume. Again, some will be put out in cheaper editions, like Nansen's book.

Fifth. Beware of ill-fitting books. Many of the above-mentioned books are not only expensive, but ill-fitting the small American library. They are foreign books on abstruse subjects, or else appeal only to a limited class. Take Oman's "Art of war in the Middle Ages" (\$4.50), for example. How much good is such a book going to do in a small library? Its only

place is in a *large* library. If it were a work covering briefly the art of war since the downfall of the Roman Empire, or even in modern times, there might be more reason for its purchase. But it is short at both ends, and there is nothing to go before or to follow after. But the worst and most ill-fitting book I know of is the "Encyclopædia Britannica." The original edition costs some \$270, and all cheap editions are poorly printed and plates unreliable. It is the most disappointing reference book I ever tried to use, and I generally leave it severely alone. It has monographs on about one subject in a hundred, and the other 99 are conspicuous by their absence. The subject-matter is almost entirely English, but by dint of agents they managed to sell many copies here.

Another ill-fitting book, just out, is the "Encyclopædia of sport" (Putnam, 2 v., \$20), which is already selling for 25 per cent. less in England, and will undoubtedly go much lower. It is written entirely from the English point of view, and has been severely criticised in our sporting journals. The methods of hunting, distribution of game and fish, and social conditions being so different, render the book almost worthless here. Cases have been known of Walton and Cotton's "Angler" being recommended as of use in fishing. Any 25-cent manual of Dick & Fitzgerald would be much better.

In the selection of books the "*Ladies' Home Journal* list," the Wisconsin, New Hampshire, and Vermont library commission lists, and the Wisconsin and New Jersey department of education lists are better than the A. L. A. list or its supplements. These lists I recommend have been made by persons entirely familiar with the work of small libraries and knowing their needs, and not by so-called "experts" who never saw a small library and have no knowledge of its small bank account.

#### *Buying.*

If you have a good local man patronize him, but generally you had better take the largest reliable book house accessible to you.

Make your orders as full and explicit as you can, giving author, reasonably full title, edition, size, date, publisher, and price if possible. In case of many works of fiction and some standard non-copyright books leave some latitude for the agent. Do not expect too large discounts. The day of 40 % has gone by, and

we are coming nearer and nearer to net prices; 25 % is the most you can expect and get good service and reliable dealing.

Remember that the bookman is not an object of charity, nor yet is he a thief, and give him a chance to live. Many of these books are sold on a narrow margin of profit. Sometimes he will be obliged to raise his price on a few books, but you will generally find he lowers it on others, so the average is the same. Don't buy cheap fiction, printed from old plates on wood-pulp paper and cheaply bound. The better editions of fiction and juvenile are none too good to stand the rough usage and rebinding consequent on such usage. Above all, do not buy a lot of second-hand fiction to put into the hands of the people. It is too much to expect them to respect a book when it is dirty to start with.

After the library is well started and has 10,000, 15,000, or 20,000 volumes you may safely buy at auction and second-hand to fill gaps, but it is not advisable to do so before that.

#### *Binding.*

As a general rule buy all you can in cloth, even sets of encyclopædias, and all but such

bulky works as Webster's International and the Standard dictionary. Beware of the agent who wants to sell you sheep for calf, cowskin for morocco, and so on. In buying cloth you get one wear out of your book, anyway, before rebinding, and frequently that is all you want. This, of course, does not apply to second-hand or auction books. Your main question about binding will be in periodicals and fiction. The linen book cloths are being used for both of these classes, and do very well. Of course, our aim is to put all periodicals into half morocco, but in many libraries this is an unthought of luxury. A good roan will do for years. Morocco is cheapest, because it lasts so much longer that one binding does for two or three roan bindings.

Fiction does well in half leather, roan, buck or skiver or full cloth. We are coming to do novels and juveniles in cloth, and much prefer to do so if we can get a binder to use it.

Require your books to be sewed all along on linen thread and laced in on three or four bands, according to height of book, except in fiction, which is generally pasted in.

## HINTS ON CLASSIFICATION.

BY LAURA E. W. BENEDICT, *Librarian of Lewis Institute, Chicago.*

A TALK on classification resolves itself, in part, into a plea for a more extended education. Ability in classification depends primarily upon an intimate and orderly knowledge of many subjects. Here there is no possible subterfuge for covering up ignorance. In subject cataloging, which perhaps comes nearest to classification in the breadth of knowledge required, if in doubt as to where a work belongs you may catalog it under any number of headings; ingenious cross-references will point out the most winding path. If you get confused in reference work you may clear your wits by an agile use of indexes, dictionaries, and bibliographies. But in the matter of classification the book fits into one place only and that place must be the unique spot in human knowledge to which the author destined it. We can't conceal a superficial education here. If we classify Cook's "First book in old English," or Sievers' "Old English grammar" in 427, along-

side of Morris and Skeat's "Specimens of early English," we make merchandise of our hazy impressions regarding the periods of the formation of our mother tongue. We tacitly confess our ignorance of the fact that, according to the universal practice of the English departments in German and American universities, old English is a synonym for Anglo-Saxon, and so the before-mentioned books are pushed into a middle English settlement, instead of being comfortably housed in 429. Instances in point might be indefinitely multiplied.

As the prime essential for classifying, therefore, let us take all the courses of study that we can get in language, literature, history, and science. It is not so much the juggling with figures that makes classification hard; it is rather our own inability to grasp the final intention of the author. Nothing but years of good solid study will give us an unerring sense of where a book belongs. It seems unfort-

unate that, in order to get anywhere or be anything in the library world, the younger librarians feel that they must be in continual activity; writing papers, rushing to clubs, getting their names into the library journals, expounding some pet scheme in detail, slaving on committees and indexes, giving out more than they have ever taken in. This feverish unrest, this "bottled-lightning" condition is not expected of beginners in any other of those learned professions among which we venture to rank our own. The lawyers, physicians, teachers, who touch the high-water mark are those who have taken time for a gradual, healthy growth of their mental faculties. Would it not be better to keep our evenings for study and be a little less public spirited? Perhaps more rest and more brain nourishment would give us in classification that "vital sense of security" which Professor William James tells us about.

The next requisite for this work is a sprinkling of that same sort of good sense which is required in any other business. We may classify with liberal hand, putting the books in the departments for which they were ordered, or where indicated by the special use of our own particular library. In a college the classifier should have access to the original requisition lists of the faculty, in order to consider in the light of his own knowledge the intention of the professor. Stopford Brooke's "Theology in the English poets" would fit snugly into 210 in the theological library, but if ordered for the study of English literature it adjusts itself in 821. Spanton's "Science and art of drawing" is almost equally at home in 515 and 744; its dwelling-place will be decided by the needs of the respective departments.

In the matter of complete sets, while the tendency seems now toward scattering into classes, yet often one seems to be tied by such a mechanical device as the form of publication. If there is a continuous volume number and general index there is nothing for it but to keep the set together and classify in the place where it will be most useful. In the Fordham edition of the "Complete works of Edgar Allan Poe" we must, forsooth, keep poetry with prose, because of the general index. Could we break up the set we should distribute it among the sections 811, 813, and 814. We, however, consign the set to 813, not only because Poe's fiction predominates

in quantity, but still more because, in the opinion of most critics, it forms the most valuable part of his literary work. Take, again, a work of the nature of John Addington Symonds "Renaissance in Italy." We may separate the volumes if we please: we are blocked by no consecutive numbering; the "Age of the despots" may go into 945, the "Fine arts" into 700, the remaining volumes into 850. Yet, considering the unity of the author's plan, the dearth of comprehensive works in English on that period, and the help that it is for students of the Renaissance to find material of this sort together, we may well determine to keep the set intact in 850.

We use a generally accepted system so as to get the best results from co-operative work with the least labor to ourselves, but our own needs should modify such system as occasion demands. Practical suggestions on this subject were offered by Mr. Tandy in the April number of *Public Libraries*.

It is convenient, especially in a library where the shelves are open, to arrange all single bibliographies in one continuous alphabet by subject. A student may then easily lay his hand upon what he wants, without having to find out, before knowing a man's shelf location, in which of several fields he was the most distinguished. Specific bibliographies, on the other hand, are most accessible when placed with their subjects. Some simple numerical scheme will serve to bring together all the books about an author directly following his own works; for example, after the book number, or after the author's initial if his place is marked by the Dewey class number, we may assign as follows: .1 Selections, .2 Bibliography, .3 Concordances and dictionaries, .4 Commentary and criticism, .5 Textual comment, .6 Versification, .7 Atlases. If there are various works of criticism on one poet, the initial of the commentator annexed will serve for arrangement in alphabetical order.

Except where it is desired to emphasize the philological department, the section "prosody" may well be disregarded. Only the closest hair-splitting can separate books on the structure of verse from those on the study of poetry. Works like Gummere's "Handbook of poetics," or Lanier's "Science of English verse," or Brewer's "Orthometry," or Guest's "History of English rhythms," or Corson's "Primer of



English verse," are essentially more valuable to the student of literature than to the student of philology, and hence should find their place in 808.1. The subject of prosody, which filled the closing pages of our antiquated grammars and rhetorics is omitted altogether from the best modern text-books on these subjects.

The section 808 has an almost unlimited capacity, but it need not, for that reason, be made a dumping-ground. In a library which has a growing English department, 808 should be carefully sub-divided. As the study of rhetoric by means of constant theme-writing is made more and more the basis of English education in our best colleges, there is prospect for an ever-increasing flow of publications on specific divisions of rhetoric. A monograph on style or on narrative, if marked simply 808, is swamped in two or three shelves full of works on English composition. The sub-divisions of rhetoric itself offer a natural and easy method of classification. A zero should be inserted after the decimal point to distinguish this arrangement from the Dewey sub-division for what we may term the forms of literature. Suppose we use 808.01 for qualities of style, as Lewes's "Principles of success," Walter Raleigh's "Style," Spencer's "Philosophy of style," Palmer's "Self-cultivation in English." We may leave 808.02 for elements of style, that is the paragraph and the sentence; here would come "Baldwin's "Expository paragraph and sentence," Lewis's "History of the English paragraph," Scott and Denney's "Paragraph-writing." 808.03-808.06 will serve for works treating of the study of the different forms of composition: description, narration, exposition and argument. Baldwin's "Specimens of prose description" will go into 808.03; Brewster's "Specimens of narration" into 808.04; Lammont's "Specimens of exposition," 808.05; Baker's "Principles of argumentation," 808.06. This last-named sub-section is for argument regarded as a branch of composition. Of course works on public speaking and debate considered from the side of oratory keep their place in 808.5.

In these days, when librarianship throws down the glove for the right to be admitted

among the learned professions; when young women holding certificates from a high school, and with a technical library education are encouraged to rank themselves with head professors in the university; when two years in a training class makes a girl the intellectual equal of men who have spent 20 or 30 years in wearing study; when, in plans for co-operation with schools there is a faint touch of superiority on the librarian's part, and the willingness to hear a deprecatory tone from the teacher; when this marvellous growth of the library movement places all other professions in an apologetic attitude; when it is generally recognized that nothing but lack of ability keeps all mankind from studying to be librarians, we would do well to make good our claims.

At all events, if we cannot be learned enough to vindicate our position, let us be a trifle more humble, and drop the notion that we "never make a mistake." If, trusting to the title-page alone, we inadvertently put Frost's "Solid geometry" or Aldis's "Elementary treatise on solid geometry" in 513.3, we may be pardoned for not knowing that 516 includes solid analytics as well as plane. (The blank 516.6 might be utilized for solid analytical geometry.) But if a mathematician finds it there, and is so good as to tell us our error, surely we may be mobile enough to acknowledge graciously that our researches in mathematics have been limited. Few classifiers have time to give minute study to many subjects. Even in matters where no actual danger of mistake is involved, conversations with scholars who are not librarians will help one to classify or reclassify with more scientific accuracy.

At the same time, we need to cultivate an imperturbable spirit. Although willing to learn from anybody, the classifier cannot hope to please everybody. There will always be a percentage of people—scholarly people, too—who think it a personal grievance that all the works by one author cannot be found together. Every specialist looks at the nature and aim of a book from his own standpoint. The ideal classifier, therefore, is both sturdy and pliable, the one quality detracting not a whit from the other.

## CATALOGING, ACCESSIONING AND SHELF LISTING FOR SMALL LIBRARIES.

BY JENNIE D. FELLOWS, *Assistant New York State Library, Albany.*

A CATALOG on cards is universally recognized as the only kind which can be kept up to date and therefore as indispensable. In a small library where printing is out of the question the most legible results are obtained by the use of the disjoined or printing hand. The important items on a card are the call number, the author's name, the title, the imprint information (as illustrations, place, date etc.) and for a dictionary catalog the subject headings.

Perhaps the call number may not be considered a part of the cataloging but its importance on the card will justify here the statement that it should be very conspicuous. Place it where it cannot be overlooked and make it stand out by the use of colored ink. Practice differs greatly on the forms of authors' names but in a small library economy demands the simplest forms sufficient for easy identification and the convenience of the users calls for those most commonly known.

There is universal agreement that the title should be as short as possible without omitting matter of value, but the cataloger is prone to forget that what is of value on one card may not be on another. The searcher under the author's name generally wishes a particular book and the title there should include what is likely to be remembered, by which he may identify it. On the subject side one more often desires a certain kind of information and such parts of the title should therefore be retained as will show the treatment of the subject and the scope of the work. If a book treats of two or more subjects, calling for as many cards, omit on the card for each subject, as far as grammatical wording will allow, all matter pertaining only to the others.

In the imprint the most important items are the edition, number of volumes if more than one, illustrations and maps, size, place and date. Other matters, such as paging and publisher, may be included, but few small libraries will find it advisable. Most of these details are of less value in fiction than in other classes and in this some libraries might think it wise to give only the number of volumes and the date.

If you have a dictionary catalog the choice of subject headings will try your souls, but the principal points to be observed are exact designation of the subject and absolutely consistent use of the same heading for the same subject, with references from synonymous terms and related subjects.

The term accessioning in its broad sense covers the various details connected with adding a book to the library, but it is commonly used with the more limited meaning of entering in the accession book. The accession book is a record of volumes in the order of their receipt and should give a concise but accurate description with source and cost and, under the heading Remarks, a brief history, including statements of such matters as re-binding and the final disposition of a book if removed from the library. A form which has given great satisfaction in small libraries is the "Condensed accession book" furnished by the Library Bureau.

This book, providing for one, two, or five thousand entries, costs \$1, \$3, or \$5. The printed headings of the columns calling for author, title, place, publisher etc. keep before one the various facts to be recorded. The entry runs across two pages, of which the left-hand page bears the accession numbers in sets of one hundred, twenty-five on a page, preventing error through duplication or omission, but if for any reason you prepare a book for yourself instead of using this you will still find the division by twenty-fives an advantage, both in the almost absolute certainty of detecting at the end of a page any mistake in numbering and in the readiness with which a number may be found. Here let me say that you should insist on having everything in the way of blank-books, sheets and cards which you obtain from a local dealer cut exactly the same size as those generally in use, in order that when in future you decide to purchase the regular supplies there may be a convenient uniformity in this respect.

In the work of accessioning it is generally conceded that a line should be given to each

volume instead of making a single entry for a set. The former method is unquestionably far more satisfactory since it allows the recording of facts applicable to one volume but not to all, while the use of ditto marks in the case of details which are identical reduces to almost nothing the labor of repetition.

In some libraries it seems to be considered of no importance in what order the books are accessioned. Do not fall into this mistake. The necessity of entering the prices is enough to show that the order of the bill should be followed. When but few books are purchased at a time individual entries can easily be looked up and the cost supplied, but when the library becomes large and the additions increase much time will be wasted if this method is pursued and it is better to establish at once the rule which you will wish to follow in future.

The shelf list is a list of books in the order of their arrangement in the library and its chief uses are as a means of taking inventory, to prevent the repetition of a book number in any class, and as a brief classed catalog. The items generally recorded are class and book number, accession number, author and a brief title. Both theory and practice vary widely as to the form of the list. Many prefer to use cards of the size for cataloging, giving a card to each work. With this system new entries can be inserted at once in their proper order but the greatest care must be taken to prevent loss or misplacement. The strongest argument in its favor is that the list never needs to be rewritten. Other librarians prefer sheets 10 x 25 centimetres (about 4 x 10 inches), giving a sheet to a class, or in large classes like fiction a sheet to one letter or to one author in a class. With this method entries are made in order of shelf arrangement for the books in the library when the list is written and additions in any class are placed on its sheet in the order of their arrival. When these latter entries become numerous it is necessary to rewrite the sheets but this would occur at such long intervals that I am sure that the time so spent would be more than offset by that saved in consulting sheets rather than cards.

At one time I was an ardent admirer of the card system but having used it I should, at least for a small library, greatly prefer sheets, possibly making an exception for fiction and bio-

graphy if the additions in these classes were large but certainly not if they were less than 200 a year.

As the most complicated of these three subjects and the one which alone requires such treatment as will make the work readily used by the public, cataloging has received the most attention in the literature of library economy. The fullest and best known work upon it is Cutter's "Rules for a dictionary catalogue," which may be obtained free from the United States Bureau of Education at Washington. Modestly calling itself an appendix to these rules, a wonderfully satisfactory guide to the choice of subject headings is the "A. L. A. list of subject headings," of which a revised edition appeared in 1898, for sale by the Library Bureau at \$2. One charge in connection with its use! Read the preface. There you will find statements on the principles to be observed in selecting headings and also a list of classes of headings not included, most of which, however, your common-sense should be able to supply if only you realize at once that in these cases you must depend upon your common-sense and not upon the book. Two small and accordingly convenient catalogs, specimens of excellent work which has been and therefore may be done, are those of the Osterhout Free Library, Wilkes-Barré, Pa., costing \$2, and of the "A. L. A. library of 5000 volumes," furnished free by the United States Bureau of Education.

In the "Papers prepared for the World's Library Congress," also to be obtained free from the Bureau of Education, are a summary of settled and of disputed points in cataloging with a comparison of methods and also a very full presentation of the work of the accession department.

An inexhaustible mine of information is the *Library Journal*, published in New York at \$5 a year. A consolidated index to the first 22 volumes has recently been issued. Many exceedingly useful articles are also given in *Public Libraries*, published by the Library Bureau at its Chicago office at \$1 a year. The knowledge of different methods is of infinite value if sufficient judgment is used to select what is best adapted to the individual needs, but the articles in these periodicals are too scattered and present the subjects from too many points of view to serve as a convenient general guide and it is a great advantage to have a single code care-

fully compiled in the light of experience and with due consideration of suggestions from many sources. The best such work is the "Simplified Library school rules," first issued as number 16 of *Library Notes*, a useful technical periodical published by the Library Bureau in Boston, subscription price \$1 a volume. The "Simplified rules" were used last year in some of the summer schools. After careful revision and with the addition of instructions in library handwriting they are now published as a separate work which may be obtained from the Library Bureau for \$1.25. This code covers very clearly in detail the technical treatment of the subjects which we are considering and was prepared with especial view to the needs of the small library.

In any general code which you might adopt you would doubtless feel that local conditions required some modifications but in making them it is well to be cautious and not to act merely from personal preference. Consider well in each case whether any benefit will really result

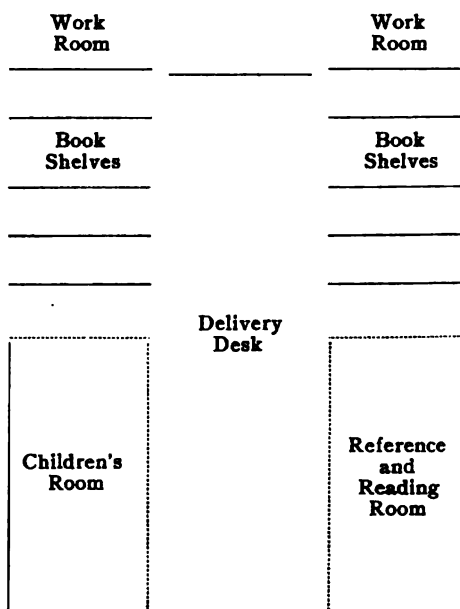
from the desired change and, if possible, consult some one who has already tried it. If you deliberately decide to make it, put it down on paper, that when you leave your present field of labor your successor may not introduce inconsistencies through not knowing what methods you have followed. Two interesting and suggestive little manuals are the "Public library handbook" of the Denver Public Library, published by Carson-Harper Co. Denver, (paper, 35 cents; cloth, 65 cents; morocco, \$1) and Miss Plummer's "Hints to small libraries," of which an enlarged edition appeared in 1898, published by Truslove, Hanson & Combs, New York, at 50 cents, with 40 cents as a special rate to libraries. There is one work to which I wish to call your attention, although it is not yet issued. This is the "Library primer," of which some features appeared in the early numbers of *Public Libraries*. It is now listed as about to be published by the Library Bureau, and is a work to which careful attention should be given as soon as opportunity offers.

## ORGANIZATION.

BY DR. G. E. WIRE, *Worcester County Law Library, Worcester, Mass.*

WE now suppose our books have been bought, they are being classified, cataloged and made ready for use by being properly tagged and pocketed, and are being deposited on shelves in their proper order. While this is going on we are also getting ready to open; and this getting ready, this welding a mass of detail together to make an effective machine, is called organization.

*Building or rooms.*—Fortunate is the librarian who is consulted about these important details. Generally they are all arranged for her, and she has the task of adapting herself to them. The rooms or building should be in a busy part of the place, not of necessity on the business street. They should have plenty of natural and artificial light, and be capable of being warm in winter, cool in summer, and well ventilated at all times. Of course we shall have to do without all the refinements of library work, and we may be confined to one room. The best arrangement for a one-room library is roughly as follows:



This gives the essentials, and may be either open or closed shelf system, as may seem best.

**Shelving.**—Temporary shelving may be made by local carpenter, but do not put much money into it, as sooner or later it will have to be laid aside. Pine or cypress is the best, and on no account be persuaded into having any oak or hardwood, for it will be so much money thrown away. Shelving should not be over six and one-half or seven feet high, low two-inch base-board, flush top double cases 16 inches wide for fiction and ordinary 8vo books. From four to eight cases should have ledges about three feet from floor, and this portion be wider, say 24 to 26 inches, for quartos and small folios. Use metal shelf pegs, and do not allow any notched wooden supports for small books to get into and large books to wear against. All shelving, as far as possible, should be interchangeable, and your shelves should be built in 6, 9, or 12 foot lengths, allowing 3 feet for shelf and necessary space for the supports and partitions. Watch the carpenter closely, for he is prone to divide up wall space to suit his ideas of uniformity without any regard to yours. Write out instructions and insist on their being carried out, or you do not pay for it. No varnish should be allowed on surfaces which come in contact with the books.

**Supplies.**—These may be divided into cataloging and general supplies. Cataloging supplies should be bought of firms ensuring quality and uniformity of stock. These include catalog, shelf list, and charging cards, all *linen* stock, accession books, inks, pens, catalog case, slip trays. It is possible to start a library with \$50 worth of these supplies, but this is as low as it is safe to go. This will furnish material for all the records necessary to be kept. This point should be borne in mind, and on no account attempt to save money by neglecting these absolutely essential records. General supplies can be gotten of local stores. These include brooms, brushes, soap, matches, hammer, screw-drivers, etc.

**Printing.**—This, except in case of pockets and charging cards which require to be exact to the millimeter, can be done at home. You will need to educate most printers as to exact measurements of borrowers' cards, etc., to get them exact, and also have to exercise great severity to secure uniformity in stock, color, and type, but it *can* be secured. Be sure you have all the necessary blanks and forms in what seems

reckless profusion before the day of opening, as the public will consume quantities of them.

**Periodicals and papers.**—These should be ordered in advance and be in regular receipt before the library is open, so as to be of help to you in many ways. Always order by the year or volume, through some responsible agency. If your local man can supply them, well and good, but I generally find he cannot for any length of time. You will have to be careful about the year or volume, as most of our periodical men and publishers are peculiarly reckless and will begin your subscription when they receive it, with no regard to volume or year. If you are going to open in March or April, which may mean June or July, begin your subscription in January. You may not think much about it at first, but later you will recognize the value of a complete volume of a periodical. If you plan to begin in early fall begin in July. Most of our periodicals begin their volumes in January or July; a few, the most notable of which are *Harper*, *Century*, and *Bookman*, disregard this rule. I had an experience in this line, and it took considerable work to get a list of some 70 United States medical journals properly lined up to the beginning of the year. Keep a simple register like the following, but keep it accurately, and of course register each piece and stamp it before it is used or looked at by any one:

Harper's Monthly.					Harper's Weekly.				
Jan.	1 1-1	Vol. 70	Jan.	1 1-1	2 1-8	3 1-15	4 1-22	5 1-30	Vol. 50
Feb.	2 1-25		Feb.	2-2		8 2-15			
Mar.	3 2-26		Mar.						
Ap.	4 4-18		Ap.						
May	5 4-26		May						
June	6 5-3		June						
July	7 6-29		July						
Aug.	8 7-25		Aug.						
Sep.	8 8-26		Sep.						
Oct.	9 9-27		Oct.						
Nov.	10 10-29		Nov.						
Dec.	11 11-25		Dec.						

This just shows when each number is received, and if a number is skipped the vacant space is a reminder until the omission is supplied. Use simple binders, those which hurt the periodical least, for the temporary binding. Tie up in volumes, with a label showing volume and year.

*Charging systems.*—Put in a simple charging system. The Library Bureau two-card or double-charging system will carry you until your circulation runs up to 100,000 a year. Beyond that you had better use the Newark system. Remember that by adopting standard sizes in pockets and cards at the very first you can afterward change without stopping your circulation or altering your pockets and trays. See that the system is all right, that you can work it smoothly, and that your attendants all understand it. See to it that you have the pencils and dating stamps ready, also plenty of cards and slips, and that your charging trays, counters, and all are correct before the opening day comes. It will be a pity to spoil your certain success by the failure of any of these small things.

Now, to pass from some of the material things to the immaterial.

*Directors or trustees.*—Happy are you if you have a small board of directors who will leave you alone in your work, only coming in occasionally to see how you are getting on. Early learn to rely on yourself and do not bother them over details you should know yourself. Of course you are to use all due tact and discretion, and do not go to the bookman for shelves, or *vice versa*.

*The press and reporters.*—Always stand in with the press. Always give out the same news to all papers, if possible, and be impartial as far as possible. The press is a most mighty influence, and the smaller the place the more we appreciate this fact. No matter how busy you are, always find time for a word with the reporter, even if you have no news. It costs you nothing and may save you a good deal some time.

*Time of opening.*—Be careful about committing yourself as to time of opening unless it is foreordained; for by reason of various delays it is often put off from time to time. The public are often delayed and discouraged by false alarms. It is better of course to get all the work done beforehand, but frequently it is wiser

to open on Fiction, Biography and Travel, than to delay too long. This can be done and has been done. Local circumstances must govern you about many of these things.

*Access to shelves.*—The question of open access has been so thoroughly touched upon by others that I will only mention it. I am in favor of it in some form or other, carefully adapted to local conditions and needs.

*Rules.*—They should be few, and as simple as possible. Have them clear and concise. Be sure you have both a state and a local law protecting the library from loss by mutilation and theft. I am particular about long forms on application or registration blanks. In small places there is no need of such ironclad obligations as are used in large cities.

*Training assistants.*—In preparing books for circulation you will have good opportunities for testing the temporary help which has to be hired at such time and for making your selection of permanent assistant or assistants. Happy are you if you can do so unhampered by any undue influence. Remember you must have on the whole more in your one assistant than you would have in a large library. The chief requisites are: tact, graciousness, readiness to work, neatness, accuracy, rapidity and punctuality. Of course no one under a high-school graduate is eligible to even temporary work. The mere bookishness of certain people is of no good. They are prone to be reading themselves when they should be helping others. You will have to keep the ordering, cataloging and classification largely in your own hands, but you should train your assistant to shelf-list, mark the books, enter periodicals and stamp them, attend to binders and files, wait on desk, to charging and discharging and some reference work. The technical knowledge can be further increased as time goes on and some training should be given in classification, cataloging and reference work. If you have more than one assistant, the instruction and work should be divided so as to fit the individuality. Always remember this, and do not expect to make a good cataloger of a bright, inaccurate, restless individual, fond of meeting people and not given to studious, hard work. Such a person can be trained for a desk-attendant, but is no good for a cataloger. I have known studious, quiet people, conscientious to a fault, but not liking a crowd and liable to be confused in

a rush, who made excellent catalogers. Above all and beyond all remember that the sole aim of all this expense of labor, time, of this expense of money, of the care and minute attention to details is to get the reader and the book together. Whatever ministers to this is all right, whatever hinders it is all wrong. The library is for the people, by the people and of the people. Be not above them. You cannot

lead them when on a pedestal, but you should get down and lift them up. It is from the common people that all our readers have sprung; and it is the common people, who to-day fill our shops and factories, till our farms and gardens, throng our streets, make our wealth, and fight our battles, that we want to help. So remember and adapt yourself, your library and your assistants all to this one end.

## CHANGING FROM A SUBSCRIPTION LIBRARY TO A FREE PUBLIC LIBRARY.

BY MARY B. LINDSAY, *Librarian Evanston Public Library, Evanston, Ill.*

THE day of the subscription or proprietary library is well nigh past, except as a means to a greater end, that of establishing its successor, the free public library.

To quote Mr. C. A. Cutter (L. J., 1893): "In this country the proprietary library was the parent of the public library and, as is said to be the custom among some savage tribes, the son when grown up has devoured his father."

The faithful work which was done in the years past by the supporters of the subscription library has not been lost but lives in the great public libraries of to-day, which stand as worthy monuments to their predecessors.

In many parts of our country subscription libraries still exist, but they are rapidly yielding to the broader educational spirit, which seeks to place the library equally with the public school within the reach of the masses.

In most places where this spirit is properly manifested, the subscription library is glad to turn over its property to form the nucleus of a free public library. It is encouraging to note how few are the cases where these libraries hold out against such change, but where such opposition does exist, it is usually overcome sooner or later by public sentiment, for the unendowed subscription library is easily forced to the wall by a library which offers free to all a supply of good books and reasonable access to its shelves.

In providing free reading to the public the best success has not been attained by the various methods employed by private enterprise, such as endowment or temporary endowment by support pledged for certain period of years. The various methods of state aid, either direct-

ly or by legislation authorizing cities and towns to tax themselves for support of free libraries, are conceded to be the best. In most of the states such laws exist, many authorizing a direct tax to be used exclusively for establishing and maintaining public libraries, and some subsidizing the public schools, giving them the requisite assistance in establishing and carrying on free libraries.

One of the best recent examples of the development of a large public library from a small beginning as a subscription library is the St. Louis Public Library.

This was chartered in 1865 as the St. Louis Public School Library; supported by subscriptions and life memberships, it opened with 1500 volumes. In 1869 the St. Louis Board of Public Schools assumed the support of the library, working in connection with the life members, supplementing its receipts with annual appropriations. In 1882 agitation was begun towards a free library by Mr. James Richardson, president of the board, who in his annual report urged the necessity of a great free public library to complete the system of public education. This agitation led to an attempt to secure the passage of a law to provide for a public library by way of increasing the school tax. This attempt was unsuccessful. From this time on each year the question was kept alive by appeals and arguments for a free library from the librarian and the successive presidents of the board in their annual reports, these appeals eliciting favorable comment from the public press.

In 1884 the librarian, Mr. Crunden, drafted a bill authorizing cities, towns, villages, etc., throughout the state to tax themselves for the

establishment and maintenance of free libraries. The passage of this bill was secured by Hon. J. M. Loring, and became the Missouri library law in April, 1885. In 1892, through action of the board of managers of the library, a legal opinion was obtained, deciding that the statute was readily available and that no legal difficulty stood in the way of transferring the library to a board of trustees to be appointed under the statute.

In January, 1893, an active campaign was begun for securing a popular vote in favor of the library. The result of the election was highly gratifying — 36,000 votes were cast in favor of a "one-fifth mill tax for a free library" to 6000 votes against it. The actual transfer of the existing library to the city and into the trust of the new board of directors involved some difficult legal problems, on account of certain bequests made to the former management upon certain conditions, and on account of the peculiar relations of the former management to the life members. These legal difficulties were, however, surmounted, the consent of a majority of the life members was obtained, and the library was finally deeded to the city March 1, 1894.

The next case to be cited is that of the Peoria (Ill.) Public Library, which is an excellent instance of what may be accomplished by a small band of citizens loyal to the best educational interests of their city.

The Peoria Mercantile Library Association was incorporated in 1865, formed by the union of two rival mercantile libraries, with a nucleus of some 1500 books. A subscription of \$13,000 was raised, of which \$10,000 was used in the purchase of a valuable property in the business centre of the city. The library was maintained by a small subscription fee of \$2, which was afterwards raised to \$4 per year, this small income being eked out by lectures and entertainments.

Members of the Mercantile Library Association, realizing the inadequacy of a subscription library to provide for the literary wants of the people, were instrumental in securing the passage of the Illinois library law. This law, which is a most liberal one, and has served for a model in many states, was originally framed by Mr. E. S. Willcox, of the Peoria Mercantile Library Association, now librarian of Peoria Public Library, and was passed with one or

two amendments in 1872. Under this law in 1880 the Peoria Public Library was organized by action of the city council, and a board of directors was appointed by the mayor.

In 1882 the Mercantile Library Association turned over its entire collection of 12,000 books to the public library, and both libraries were consolidated in the building owned by the Mercantile Library Association.

In 1894 the overcrowded condition of the library led to an agitation for a new building.

The Mercantile Library Association, which was still in existence, now found itself in possession of a property which had increased by careful management from \$10,000 to \$75,000, and the public library owned 50,000 books. A proposition was made by the Mercantile Library Association to the city council that if the city would purchase a lot, the Mercantile Association would sell its property and devote the proceeds to the erection of a new public library building. This proposition was accepted and a new building was erected under the direction of a committee chosen from both boards. This building was turned over to the city, the Mercantile Library Association closing its career with the surrender of this trust.

This library building, with a capacity for 200,000 books, and well equipped for aggressive library work, stands as a noble monument to the 140 contributors to the original fund which, so well invested, made such a building possible.

As there are, however, a greater number of smaller subscription libraries, for which the prospect of becoming free libraries seems favorable, it will perhaps be more to the point to describe the change which has taken place in such small libraries.

The La Porte (Ind.) Public Library dates its origin from the library agitation spreading from New Harmony (Ind.), where William McClure, the first president of the Philadelphia Academy of Science, had become associated with Robert Owen in his socialist experiment. Mr. McClure provided in his will for the establishment of workingmen's institutes, one of the provisions of which was the collection of a library of 100 volumes, and one of these libraries formed the nucleus of the La Porte Library and Natural History Association in 1863. This association had a somewhat checkered career of some 33 years, involving numerous complications in property. They had accumulated some 5000



volumes and had a small building sufficient for their needs on an ample lot near the centre of the city. They also had an additional property yielding a small income. Their income, however, from all sources was hardly large enough to keep a librarian at a small salary.

After an agitation led by the librarian with co-operation of the Woman's Club, which had felt the lack of reference books, the association voted, in January, 1896, to turn the library over to the city for a free public library, to be supported by a special tax of one-third mill, there being in the state an act providing for a tax of one-third mill for the support of a free library under control of the school board.

The income-bearing property of the Library Association was sold and the proceeds devoted to enlarging the library building. The library was formally transferred to the city in April, 1897. The present income is about \$1300, which will soon be increased by the new Indiana library law passed at the recent session of the Indiana Legislature which authorizes a one mill tax. The Indiana Library Association and the women's clubs of the state were largely instrumental in securing the passage of this law.

The next illustration is the Kankakee (Ill.) Public Library. As has already been noted, Illinois has a very liberal library law, but owing to opposition from a Ladies' Library Association already established, public sentiment was not strong enough to secure a vote in favor of a public library until 1896, when some progressive citizens, together with the Women's Club, succeeded in carrying a vote to establish a public library and reading-room. A board of directors was appointed, and, anticipating their income, some books were purchased and the library organized by Dr. G. E. Wre. The library started with 500 volumes, and in the first two years the circulation grew so rapidly the small stock of books was almost worn out. Meanwhile the patronage of the Ladies' Library Association had almost entirely ceased, and active steps were taken towards uniting the two libraries. There were some 26 stockholders in this association, of whom a large majority finally voted to give their library of about 10,000 books to the public library. They also transferred a gift of \$5000 which had been left them for a library building. This was increased by a \$10,000 appropriation from the city and by private gifts, and in 1898 a \$15,000 building was dedi-

cated. One of the principal conditions of the transfer of the property of the Ladies' Association to the public library was that in future three of the directors of the public library board should be women. These conditions have been fulfilled, and the present president of the board testifies to the success of the plan.

The Cedar Rapids (Iowa) Public Library grew out of the City Federation of Ladies' Literary Clubs which was organized in January, 1895, naming for one of its objects in its articles of incorporation the establishment of a free public library. A sentiment was soon created in favor of a public library and entertainments were given for a fund to be donated to the library when established. In January, 1896, a petition was presented to the city council signed by members of the federation asking that the question of establishing a free city library be submitted to the voters at the following spring election. This was carried to a successful vote, and the following June the library was established under the Iowa library law. This law was passed in 1873 allowing a one mill tax, which has since been increased to three mills.

The Evanston (Ill.) Public Library is the outgrowth of the Evanston Library Association, which was formed in 1870, allowing free use of its books in the reading-room and charging a small weekly fee for the drawing of books.

The Illinois library law, which was introduced in 1872, was amended through the efforts of Mr. L. H. Boutell, of the Evanston Library Association, to include all municipal corporations, as well as cities, in the right to vote a tax for libraries. The following year the citizens of the village of Evanston voted for a two mill tax for a free public library, a board of directors was appointed, the property of the Library Association was turned over to the city under this new board and the library thrown open to the public in July, 1873.

Briefly as to a few general principles, conceding that the free library to be supported adequately for the use of the people, must be supported by the tax of the people:

1. The state should have a library law, providing for the incorporation of a library to be supported by the people, and providing for such library to receive real and personal property for purposes of the library. The Illinois library law is cited as being a liberal example of such law. The essential points of this law are as follows:

The power of initiative in starting a public library is vested in the city council in case of incorporated cities, and does not rest with the vote of the people. In case of town, village or township the question may be submitted to vote upon petition of 50 legal voters. The maximum tax is two mills for cities of less than 100,000 inhabitants, one-half mill in cities of over 100,000 inhabitants. The tax is permissive not mandatory—the law reading “may levy a tax, etc.” The control of the library funds is given to the board of directors of the library, provided that all moneys received for such library . . . be drawn upon by the proper officers of said city, upon the proper, authenticated vouchers of the library board. The law provides for a board of directors of nine members to be appointed by the mayor with the approval of the city council.

2. Continual agitation of the question must be the watchword. A determined effort must be maintained on the part of the people both within and outside the local library association to overcome an opposition which may sometimes come from but one or two members of an organization and yet be enough to block progress.

3. Due attention must be paid to all legal questions of property. In cases where gifts are bestowed upon special conditions, great care should be taken to see that such conditions are kept unbroken.

4. The organization of the new library board requires great prudence. In general it is safe to say that the new board should at first be made up of at least a part of the former board, whose experience in library management, though under different conditions, is valuable.

As to the technical details of the change, wherever possible reorganize the library on modern library principles. If this cannot be done all at once, begin with the new accessions on new principles and as fast as possible work over the old books to the new arrangement.

Until all states have obtained a library law providing for tax sustained libraries, the mission of the subscription library should be pre-eminently to work towards such end by stimulating a desire for reading and creating public sentiment in favor of a free library, meantime encouraging gifts and collecting such books as will form a valuable nucleus for a public library.

## MANAGEMENT OF SMALL PUBLIC LIBRARIES.

BY MARILLA W. FREEMAN, *Librarian Michigan City (Ind.) Public Library.*

THE public library should be not only the educational centre of the town or city, and often its art centre as well, but it may become, in the language of the new sociology, a centre of social service. Just here lies the great opportunity of the librarian of the small library. She is fortunate in her privilege of personal contact with her public, and upon her depends, in large measure, the atmosphere of the library. She should be alert, tactful, a gracious hostess, ready alike with helpful suggestions to the timid or the uncertain, and with quick, intelligent service for the man who knows what he wants and wants it at once. Let her, if possible, find some time for personal intercourse with her readers. If she knows, as she should, the books she handles, and remembers, as the “small librarian” may, not only the names and faces, but the differing personalities of her readers, she may quietly and unobtrusively direct the whole trend of the intellectual life of her town. She should be accessible, not only

within the library, but out of it. Let her not rebel at being known as “the library lady” by the small boys on the street. Let her be ready, not to introduce indeed, but to respond willingly to talk of books and of the library, even at those social functions where “shop” is supposed to be tabooed.

She should carry out in every way the open-door policy, not merely by opening the doors and waiting for people to come in, but by going out to seek them. Many people hesitate long and timidly over the preliminary visit to the library for a card. I like the suggestion of Mr. Foss, of Somerville, Mass., in *Public Libraries*, March, 1899, that a personal canvass of the town be made, so that every man, woman, and child may be offered a library card. And, above all, when people have come, let them be made to feel at home.

The aim and general attitude of the librarian being thus outlined, how shall she put it into active force?—that is, by what channels can

she reach the people at large, and, when reached, how hold them?

Since this is the day of the children, the first thought of the librarian may well be for them. And, first of all, do not shut out bright and eager children by the age limit. If there must be a test, let it be nothing more than the child's ability to write his own name. The pride of ownership and of responsibility should not be denied him. Often the younger children take better care of books than their older brothers and sisters. If possible, have a special room for the children. If not, resort may be had to a children's alcove or corner. The smallest library may at least find space in a corner of its reading-room for a special table for the children, made lower than the usual size, and, if it can be managed, cases with some, or all, of the children's books should be near their tables.

In our library we are fortunate in having a room which can be devoted to the children, and which is at the same time so situated that it can be under the personal supervision of the librarian. The children's books are in wall-cases about the room, grouped according to subjects, under various attractive headings, such as Stories of long ago, Fairy tales, Indian stories, Poetry, Lives of great men and women. The children may make their own selections, except as they desire help, with no restriction other than careful treatment of the books. We have considered the organization of a children's library league, for the protection of the books, but our town is not too large for individual work with the children, and we have found the use of the Maxson book-mark sufficient thus far.

We are fortunate, also, in the possession of a room which may be used as a class-room in connection with our work with the schools. The room is furnished with tables and with chairs sufficient to seat 50 pupils and their teacher. Each grade in the schools, from grades five to eight, has the use of this room for one afternoon session of each month. All the eighth grades come the first week, the seventh grades the next, and so on through the month. At their grade meetings the teachers determine upon the subject which they will take up at their next visit to the library, and notify us a week in advance. Books on that subject sufficient in number to supply each pupil in the grade, and suited to the age of the pupils, are sent up to the room, and each child is assigned a topic

upon which to write a short composition from the material furnished. When a pupil has found all he can from one source books are exchanged, and thus each child comes into contact with several books which may be new to him. The subjects chosen are those in which different grades are at the time specially interested in school. Thus last week the seventh grades, which are reviewing in school the geography of Europe, had for their library subject travel in Europe and description of various European countries and cities. For this grade we utilized, in addition to the regular books of travel, such descriptive stories as "Hans Brinker" and the "Witch Winnie" series. A younger grade took up stories, battles, and incidents of the American Revolution. In the spring and fall nature-study afternoons are popular. A specially valuable feature of the plan is the opportunity it gives the librarian for short talks to the pupils on the use of the library, the reference books and card catalog, accompanied by practical object lessons and tests. The school children are unanimously enthusiastic over their library afternoon, and we find the plan very successful in stimulating their interest in good reading and in forming the library habit along right lines. With libraries where there is no room available for such work, there may be at least an occasional visit to the library from teacher and pupils for the purpose of becoming familiar with the location and use of the reference books and other resources of the library.

We have found the monthly visits helpful in the opportunity they give the librarian to know the teachers individually, and to come into sympathetic relation with them and their work. The close co-operation that should exist between the library and the schools will be most firmly grounded upon a personal and individual interest on the part of the librarian in the teachers and in their plans for work and for personal culture. Special privileges to teachers, short talks at the teachers' meetings, personal visits to the schools for talks to the pupils — all these things help to strengthen the tie between library and schools.

The librarian should keep in close touch with the school work, informing herself in advance of the order of studies and subjects for debate, so that the wants of pupils may be promptly supplied. The teachers may be asked to furnish lists of special topics to be taken up in geogra-

phy, history, and other studies, and references may be made for each topic on separate cards, to be included in the catalog. In advance of all special days which are celebrated in the schools, such as Washington's Birthday, Arbor Day, and Memorial Day, lists of references and suitable selections should be compiled. These lists, which may be fastened upon the library bulletin board, sent to the teachers, and printed in the daily papers, will serve a double purpose, that of answering the demands of the children for "pieces" to speak, and of helping the teachers to prepare their programs.

The question of free access to the shelves is a puzzling one. Certainly the public should be made to feel at home among its own books, and certainly the experience of libraries with "open shelves" goes to prove that the public may be trusted among its own books. For the larger libraries, such a plan as Mr. Foster's "Standard library" (see *Providence Public Library Bulletin*, October, 1898, or *Library Journal*, December, 1898), or the remarkably successful open-shelf department of the Buffalo Public Library, seem to have solved the problem. The same plan may be applied, in miniature, to small libraries in which the construction of the building or other conditions make indiscriminate access impracticable. In these cases, one side of the delivery-room, or at least an alcove or corner, may be fitted with shelves accessible to the public, upon which may be placed a selected collection of books from all classes in the library, including not only some of the newest and some of the most popular, but also some of the "best" books—books upon which Time has set the seal of its approval. This open-shelf corner or department should in no way interfere with the privilege to teachers, students, and all who wish of examining the entire collection in the main book-stack. Indeed, it may well be adopted even where free access is the rule, for the convenience of the many readers to whom a large array of volumes brings embarrassment and uncertainty. In the first confusion and excitement attendant upon the opening of a new library, this plan of partial access may be made simply a preliminary step to the inauguration of open shelves, after the novelty shall have worn away. Certainly the access of the public to the shelves, whether in whole or in part, not only brings a great saving of time to public and

librarian alike, but is a source of that freedom and satisfaction which should inhere in an institution whose first aim is "public happiness."

Reference work similar to that done for the schools should also be done for the literary clubs of a town. The library may furnish material and aid in the making of programs, lists of references on the general topics of work, to be printed with the program, and lists of references on special subjects for individual members of the club. We find that a room in our building, the use of which is given to literary clubs for their meetings, has helped to effect a strong co-operation between the library and the club members.

The use of pictures in connection with the school and club work is helpful. For this purpose may be utilized illustrations from duplicate or worn-out magazines. In our library we have, through requests in the newspapers, received many volumes and odd numbers of valuable magazines. These are primarily used for the completion of volumes and sets, but from all duplicate numbers the best illustrations are cut, mounted on heavy gray paper or bristol board, and classified like the books. Groups of them, illustrating various countries, art subjects, etc., are loaned to teachers, to literary clubs, or to individuals. These pictures are also utilized in the library for wall exhibits and illustrated bulletins.

Two large, portable screens are covered with groups of pictures on various subjects, the soft, gray mounting paper making an effective background. For Christmas one of these screens was covered with a fine collection of Madonnas, some of them taken from magazines and illustrated papers, many loaned by friends of the library. The other screen bore a collection of illuminated holiday magazine covers, mounted on gray paper. On a large wall space was placed an exhibit of gay holiday posters. The screens are at present used for reproductions of pictures by modern artists, in illustration of a course of University Extension lectures on art, the collection of pictures on the library screen being changed each week to correspond with the subject of the lecture for that week.

Every library, however small, should have a bulletin board and blackboard placed in a conspicuous position, to which may be fastened, or upon which may be written in bright colored chalks, attractive lists of new books, birthday

bulletins of some noted person accompanied by his or her picture, anything and everything, in brief, which will attract the attention of visitors and encourage them to use the library.

Among the ways and means of gaining the attention and interest of the public, the library exhibit is one of the most popular. An exhibit of photographs taken by local amateurs; an "Indian day," with a collection of local Indian relics, Indian pictures mounted and grouped on the wall, including Burbank's highly colored studies, with some new "Indian books" for the boys and with all the old ones attractively displayed; a "Nature day" in the spring or early fall, with decorations of wild flowers, with an exhibit of books relating to birds, animals, plants, and out-of-door life in general, the walls covered with the beautiful colored bird and animal plates issued by the Nature Study Publishing Co., of Chicago, perhaps a few rare birds in cages; these and innumerable other ideas may be effectively used. Art exhibits are a most pleasing and legitimate part of the library's work, from the collection of mounted illustrations cut from the magazines, or the local loan collection, to the exhibition of original drawings and paintings loaned by Scribner's Sons and other publishing houses, or the beautiful reproductions of the world's great pictures loaned by the Helman-Taylor Co. and other art firms.

Scarcely second in importance to the work with the children and the schools is the opportunity of the library among the working classes. In any town large enough to sustain a public library there are likely to be more or less industrial centres, and to the mass of workers which such centres gather about them, the library should make a special appeal. Let us hope, primarily, that it is situated upon a main business street, where the factory people as they stroll by of an evening may find it convenient to drop into the brightly-lighted reading-room. The best bait will be a goodly number of clean, entertaining, illustrated periodicals, popular monthlies, reliable reviews, illustrated weeklies, and wholesome "funny papers." Try to have if possible at least one semi-technical magazine for each class of workers represented in the town, and the *Scientific American* and its supplements for all inventive boys and men. With a large German population we find two or three illustrated German papers a good draw-

ing card, and we keep on file the local German daily as well as those printed in English.

We have also a slowly increasing collection of German books, believing that the German working people, many of whom can read only in their native tongue, should share with others the privileges of the library and of access to the printed page. Many German parents, too timid to come to the library themselves, will send their children, who, taking advantage of the two-book privilege, will draw a German book for the father or mother and an English book for themselves.

If it is the aim of the library to draw to it all classes, there should be at least a few books suited to the wants of each individual class. A little group of carefully chosen, up-to-date books on electrical and mechanical engineering, locomotive construction, wood-working machinery, or textile industries, according to local needs, will often prove the best possible investment, even for a small library, in a manufacturing town. Superintendents or foremen of factories may be interested by requests for suggestions from them in the selection of technical books, and the intelligent workingman who can find at the library just the book he wants on electricity or foundry practice becomes from that moment one of the library's warmest adherents.

But given the book and the man who wants it, how is the one to be drawn to the attention of the other? The first article of the modern librarian's creed should be "advertise." Advertising is one of the fundamentals of success in the business world, and why not in the library world? From the time your first installment of books is ready for the public your watchword should be "Make it known."

Doubtless the best advertising medium is the local newspaper, which will carry the library news into many homes. In it may be printed lists of the new books, introduced by a striking headline, and by brief notes or reviews on some of the most timely or valuable among the books. Lists of books on special topics or for special days should frequently appear, and a half or quarter column of "Library notes," calling attention to gifts of pictures or books to the library, to special exhibits or other library matters, will help to keep the public interested. If your list is one of special interest ask your editor to have the type saved for further use

It may be taken to a small job press, and 500 or 1000 or more copies may be struck off for distribution at the library. The expense involved in this will be slight. Some newspapers will print these lists free, if such a notice as the following be inserted in the list: "Printed by the courtesy of the *Daily News*." If there is more than one paper in the community furnish library news and lists to them all, thereby making them all friends of the library. Where there are but two papers, of about equal standing, it is well to send exactly the same copy to each and divide the library's job-printing between them.

If your town has one or more trade journals send them lists on various local industries, on electricity, and on labor questions. An excellent list for Labor day was published in the *Union Advocate*, St. Joseph, Mo., Sept. 3, 1898.

A most successful means of advertising the library among the workingmen is by means of bulletins and lists posted in factories, car-shops, electric power-houses, etc. In every department of every factory and industrial centre in our community we have placed one of the little wall-boxes, originated by Mr. Wright, of the St. Joseph Public Library, containing a number of library application blanks and labelled with the following inscription:

**PUBLIC LIBRARY,  
EIGHTH AND SPRING STREETS.**

**BOOKS LOANED FREE.**

Take one of these applications, fill it out, have some real estate owner sign as your guarantor, then bring it or send it to the library and books will be loaned you without charge.

*Library open from 9.30 A. M. to 9 P. M.*

Each of these boxes is accompanied by a printed or typewritten list of books — books on electricity for the power-house — on locomotive construction, pattern making, metal work, engineering, etc., for the car factory and railroad shops, and attractive titles of books for girls and women in all departments of factories where women are employed. The results from this one form of advertising have been more satisfactory than from any other employed. The library wall boxes may also be placed in hotels, railway stations, and other public places.

In these days, when the A B C of social ser-

vice—Altruism, Brotherhood, Co-operation—is familiar to all, the library must be indeed poor and small and self-centred which can do nothing to extend its privileges to those, at least in its own immediate environment, to whom the library itself is not accessible. Poor and remote parts of town, or adjacent rural districts, may be made centres for small travelling libraries, little groups of books sent out from the main library to some home or small store from which as a centre they may be issued to the people of the neighborhood. To children too far away to reach the central library, little home libraries may be sent. A home library is defined as "a group of 10 or more poor children, a library of perhaps 20 carefully selected books placed in the home of one of the children, and a sympathetic visitor, usually a woman, who meets the children once a week, talks over the books which they have read at their homes, and interests and amuses them for an hour in any way she chooses." Each group contains both boys and girls from eight to fifteen years of age.

The members of a fire department, a police force, or a life-saving crew, are quick to appreciate an effort to provide them interesting reading for the long, monotonous hours in the stations. Regular travelling libraries may be sent them each month, or a more informal arrangement made. At the life-saving station in Michigan City the captain gives leave of absence to one of the men once a week to exchange books at the library for the crew. A light, compact wooden case, suitable also as a receptacle for the books at the station, is convenient for carrying them back and forth.

Suggestions might be multiplied in regard to the opportunities for usefulness in the management of the small library. Much may depend, it is true, upon the assistance and the resources which the librarian may have at her command, but more will depend, in the end, upon the unwearying patience and energy and enthusiasm of the librarian and her band of helpers. Kipling has painted for us at once the ultimate ideal and the ultimate reward of the earnest worker, in that happy state where

"No one shall work for money, and no one shall work for fame;  
But each for the joy of the working, and each in his separate star,  
Shall draw the Thing as he sees It, for the God of Things as They Are."

## THE STATE LIBRARIAN'S OUTLOOK.

BY JOHNSON BRIGHAM, *State Librarian of Iowa.*

SINCE the beginning of the present year, several states have enacted laws in response to popular demand for a more generally helpful library service. I will briefly outline this new legislation, using the summary as a text for such running comment as has occurred to me to make in the course of a somewhat hasty consideration of the subject.

Beginning in the far East, the legislature of the state of Maine has given statutory permission to the state librarian to loan books in the state library, except reference works and document sets. It has also inaugurated the travelling library system and created a library commission to operate the same. This commission is composed of five members: the state librarian a member by virtue of his office; the other four members to be appointed by the governor; the state librarian to be secretary of the commission.

A similar measure has become a law in Indiana. In the last-named state the commission is composed of three members, to be appointed by the governor; the state librarian to be secretary of the commission. A provision is also made for township libraries.

Wisconsin has its own original way of doing what needs to be done. In the matter of the travelling library recent legislation has contributed further to its success, though none but a Wisconsin man or woman can tell with absolute certainty just what the commission's improved condition really is, beyond an increased appropriation. But, however original the Wisconsin library laws may be, there is ever in the Wolverine legislator's mind a sublime confidence in the ability and purpose of chosen state officials to evolve from them something really worth having and worth paying for—and the confidence seems to be well founded.

Minnesota has a new library commission and travelling library law, the product of a long campaign of education. The commission created for the execution of Minnesota's new law is composed of the president of the state university, the state superintendent of public instruction, the secretary of the state historical society and two appointees of the governor; the

commission to elect its officers from its own membership, these to serve without pay, but to be reimbursed for necessary expenses incurred. Along with this new travelling library law an act was passed enlarging the scope of the old free public library law.

California's legislature, at the last, rejected the library commission and the travelling library, but passed an act which transfers the choice of trustees for the state library from the legislature to the governor, from the appointment of these trustees all at one time to the selection of one every year. The new law also increases the powers and responsibilities of the library board. This, although not what was hoped for, was a long step forward, being the transfer of the appointing power from the legislature—which means the majority in the legislature (in other words, the party caucus)—to one man responsible directly and alone for the choice he may make. Knowing the enormous political and personal pressure put upon the chief executive of the state, I think that the one good turn of the California legislature deserves another, namely, the creation of an ex-officio rather than an appointive library board, all the members responsible solely and directly to the people, the membership continuous, the librarian's tenure dependent upon this body and thus removed as far as possible from that bane of the state library, the meddlesome and inconsiderate interference of personal and partisan politics.

I am glad to be able to illustrate my point in favor of an ex-officio board by reference to recent history in my own state. The library board in Iowa is probably as far removed from both personalism and partisanship as one can reasonably expect to find any body of men this side Arcadia. It is composed of the governor, the secretary of state, the state superintendent of public instruction, and the six members of the supreme court. But there has been, until recently, this glaring inconsistency in our state library law; while the board was held responsible for the library, the appointment of the librarian—and practically the librarian's assistants, too—was a part of the patronage of the

governor. But our last general assembly, rightly reasoning that the appointing power should lodge with those who are held responsible for services rendered by the appointee, and painfully aware that the state library had been weakened by frequent changes from one personal or political appointment to another, wisely transferred the appointing power from the governor to the entire library board. In thoughtful consideration for the supposed sorrow of our governor at the loss of patronage, the legislature made the new law take effect, not immediately, but in the year 1900. But, to the surprise of many, Governor Shaw took early occasion to announce through the press that he recognized the wisdom of the change, and that, in deference to the spirit of the new law, he would waive his right to select and would appoint any one the board might recommend.

The California legislature is to be commended for enlarging the powers of the state library board, thereby serving notice on that body that henceforth much more will be expected of it than simply to register the statutory decrees of the legislature.

Quitting California, let us stop long enough on our way back east to note the brave though losing fight made by the champions of library progress in Nebraska for a library commission and the travelling library. The struggle lasted until almost the last day of the session. When the unwelcome end came there was no despondency, but rather a firm determination to renew the contest next time, meantime to show by local object lessons in the travelling library, and by an accumulation of evidence from other states, that Nebraska cannot afford to deprive her citizens of the benefits of a rightly conducted free travelling library.

Iowa already has the travelling library, but lacks the library commission, that everywhere present missionary force which makes the system state-wide in its beneficence and everywhere alike helpful in its operation. Our state library is easily and satisfactorily handling 70 travelling libraries of 50 books each, and a few hundred standard works for special loans, and every three months will add to the number of such libraries and such works for special use. But what are 100 or 200 travelling libraries, and what is a collection of 1000 or 2000 books for special use, when there are nearly 2000 post-

offices and about 3600 school districts in the state? Iowa must soon decide whether to go on indefinitely buying and circulating travelling libraries, thus encouraging communities to look to the state for their reading, or to create a library commission, and through that commission plant and transplant libraries, grafting its strength into the weakness of local effort, and so making the weak strong and ultimately self-supporting and self-sufficient. Our state library association, strongly backed by the Iowa Federation of Women's Clubs and other organizations, will unitedly urge upon the next general assembly the alternative of the library commission as more American, more conducive to high-grade citizenship; and all are agreed in that the state library shall be represented on the commission, and that a large part of the work of the commission, including the work devolving upon the secretary, can be safely entrusted to women.

On the Minnesota law I have two criticisms to offer. In the first place, it declares that the commission's chosen officers shall serve without pay. Now, it will be impossible to place a library commission upon a working basis that will satisfy the demands of the people without making provision for the entire time and best services of at least one person of recognized official position on the board. Again, in the *personnel* of the commission the law doubly recognizes the chief executive, giving him two appointments; it also recognizes the office of the state superintendent, that of the state university president, and that of the secretary of the state historical society, but, strangely enough, it wholly ignores the one office which should be and is, in all the other travelling library states, in close and sympathetic touch with the new library movement. And by the provision that the commission shall elect officers from its own membership, it prevents the state librarian from even serving as the commission's secretary.

The Indiana law is better in this respect. By naming the state librarian as secretary of the commission the travelling library is sure of the services of one organizing mind, presumably imbued with the missionary spirit and directly in touch with the library movement of the time. In my judgment the real organizing mind upon which the commission must depend for its executive force should have had a voice and vote



in the commission, and should have been the *de jure*, as he must necessarily be the *de facto*, executive head of the commission. But so long as the ancient fiction remains prevalent in our official world, which gives to a board of eminently respectable do-nothings all the honor, if there be any, letting its secretary do all the work and draw all the pay and the opprobrium, if there be any, I should not inveigh against the Indiana law, for, faulty as it seems to me in this respect, the new commission will be in good hands, and the law cannot fail to do great good.

The Maine law, making the state librarian secretary of the commission and yet giving him full membership in that body, is better still, and yet I cannot forbear to speak of one inconsistency in the make-up of the commission which it creates. By arbitrarily making one of its five members secretary, it deprives that one member of eligibility to the presidency of the commission, though, for reasons already given, he should be the one best fitted to serve as its executive head.

A few words, in passing, on that feature of the Maine law which permits the state librarian to loan any books in the state library except reference books and document sets. My one criticism on this feature would be that the Maine legislature, having trusted the state librarian thus far, might well have gone a step farther and left to that official's discretion this whole matter of loaning books from the state library. Let me recall a recent experience. A request came to me by mail for two volumes of a document set—a set of great value, but one rarely in use in the library. I knew the would-be borrower—and sympathized with his purpose—to prepare a paper for a club composed chiefly of university professors. Forbidden by statute to loan the books direct, I borrowed them myself, and expressed them to him. Ten days thereafter the books were back in their places and nobody had been the loser by the slight fracture which the law had sustained, and at least a score of thoughtful and scholarly men had become the wiser thereby, somewhat better fitted to meet the question under consideration. Another instance not so easily passed upon. A few days ago a man called upon me wanting to borrow several works on Lafayette. He was surprised and grieved when I said I could not loan him the books, and he remarked that he had recently borrowed valuable works

from the New York State Library and from the library of Harvard University, and that without giving security of any sort save a line of commendation from a friend, a man of assured position in our community. All that I had dared to hope for on entering upon my duties as state librarian was permission to loan books at my discretion to parties living within the limits of the state. But here came a report of a loan outside the state, and without security of any sort except the uncertain security one has in a general letter of commendation!

Is it safe, is it wise to let books go out of the state library, and even outside the limits of the state? My answer would be yes—throwing the entire responsibility upon the librarian. It is ever the highest wisdom to be generous—"but," as Mr. Brooke in "Middlemarch" was wont to sagely remark, "only to a certain extent, of course." The extent to which one may carry the loaning of books not duplicated in the library should, as it seems to me, be made the individual problem of the state librarian—in the solution of which he should give the state the benefit of a reasonable doubt.

The state librarian who is really interested in his work, and who really appreciates his opportunities for public service, must see before him a vast missionary field. That field is awaiting—not yet the harvest, but, in most states—first the breaking, then the grading, then the sowing, then the cultivating, and after that the harvest.

The state librarian who sees in the duties and opportunities of his position only an endless chain of detail work—of buying, and checking, and accessioning, and cataloging, and shelving, and finding, and replenishing, and so on round and round from year to year—is only a modern exemplification of the watch-dog theory of the mediæval librarian, and is as far behind the spirit of the new library movement as the 15th century was behind the 19th.

I would not underestimate the value of the detail work to which reference has been made. Little as I have been privileged to know of library school training, I gladly bear testimony to the supreme necessity of it as an equipment for the handling of the large library and to the desirableness of it in the handling of the small library. But the state librarian who regards these necessary means as the "be all and end

all" of library work is evidently in need of an eye-opener, and a heart-opener as well.

The librarian's field is not confined within four walls, however spacious the enclosure. It is, rather, the world—a world of ever-recurring wants of the mind—wants which books alone can supply; a world of men and women with noble cravings for universals, but, alas! with strong counter-cravings for non-essentials; dreamers of dreams and seers of visions, yet strangely tied down to time-killing occupations and time-serving habits of thought and life.

As we recall the throngs that visit our state libraries, the refreshment and help which many thousands there seek and surely find, we cannot deem it presumptuous to claim for the state librarian's work some measure of the glory of this age—some measure of confidence in the future of the state library as an institution planned to benefit and bless.

We cannot well be otherwise than strenuous in our insistence that the state that has erected the most capacious and magnificent library building, or set apart and furnished the most palatial apartment in its capitol, and filled its shelves with the choicest literature of all the ages, has but laid broad and deep the foundations for the "more stately mansions" which 20th century civilization will have a right to expect.

What is the least that 20th century civilization will have a right to expect of the state? That it go on buying books? Yes, always. That it enlarge its appropriations for the purchase of books and for library work? Yes. That it approximate more closely toward perfection in the essential work of classifying and cataloging? Yes. That it fill our places with others, better fitted by nature and education, to do the work we are now doing? Yes, but not too suddenly!

The mission of the state library, so well begun in some states, so haltingly begun in others, will not have even neared its consummation till there is established between the hum-

blest and remotest citizen and the state a relation by which, with the minimum of friction, expense, and delay, the citizen may avail himself of so much of that soul-nourishment and mind-medicine as he may crave.

The state must not let the popular demand for libraries die out for want of sustenance. It must not let the travelling library movement fritter away in vain though well-meaning attempts on the part of clubs to perform educational functions which properly belong to the state. We must show the partially convinced majority in the travelling library states, and the sceptical majority in the other states, that the maintenance of the connection, desired by some and already established by others, between the state and the individual scholar and reader and seeker after knowledge is as much a part of the duty of the state toward its citizens as is the maintenance of the relation which has long been sustained between the state and the common schools.

In all our plans for the more intimate relation between the individual reader and the state we should regard the state library as the storm-centre of library activities. And finally, in the future we must not draw back from our pioneer work for the library cause—the cause of humanity—though all the old-time missiles of conservatism should be hurled at us at once. I am uttering only a truism when I declare that every step of progress and reform has been made in the face of volleys of epithets, the most effective of which are "paternalism," "socialism," and the like. We pioneers in this library movement have had rather less than our share of opposition! Now, while the foes of progress are diverted to other fields of activity, let us push as fast and far toward the front of our purpose as our commissariat will warrant; and so long as we can keep going, and can hold the ground we gain, let us not complain if now and then we find our rations short, or not exactly to our taste.

## THE STATE LIBRARY IN ITS MISSION OF COLLECTION, DISTRIBUTION AND EXCHANGE.

BY W. E. HENRY, *State Librarian of Indiana.*

THERE has been a growing and laudable zeal in library work within the last ten years which, I presume, has not been equalled at any other time in library history, and there has followed an improvement in library management and methods certainly not surpassed in any other line of professional work.

Every sort of library has been improved and made more useful except the old church, or what might better be called the cathedral library, and next to the cathedral library in completely escaping the new life and zeal stands the state library. One has escaped because of the dead conservatism it represents, and the other has almost entirely escaped the power of the resurrection because of the withering and blighting influence of partisan politics, which is the bane of every institution which is supposed to represent culture or merit.

However, the state library has not wholly escaped the new life, for a few state librarians do read and fewer still do think, and in some rare instances real librarians have been placed in state libraries, and I believe it fair to say that the tendency is growing, however slowly and unsteadily.

But this new zeal for good library work, as it has reached from the general body toward the state library, has failed to distinguish and to recognize what seems to me a vital distinction between the general public library and the state library. I do not wish to imply here that the state library cannot accept and use new methods and new devices in library work; I do not wish to imply that the state library cannot use well-trained librarians; I do not wish to even suggest that a state library cannot associate with and improve by experience of other libraries. On the contrary, these are the elements in our hope of salvation. But I do wish to state positively that I believe the state library as such has a distinctive function not possessed by any other library and not understood even by many able and zealous librarians. The public library is a public but a local institution, and every person, because of the proximity of his residence to that library, becomes a part

owner of the library and has a right to be heard on all questions touching its management. The state library is distinctly not only a state institution in the sense that the university or the normal school or the school for the blind is a state institution, but beyond that it is a state office, and by this I mean to say that it is one of the administrative offices of the state. The state library is for the state as such as distinctively, though not so prominently, as is the office of secretary of state, auditor, or court reporter. The essential mission of the state library is to serve the state as an institution, and there is no more reason for the state library becoming a popular institution than there is for the state treasury becoming a popular institution, and there is no more reason for the citizen expecting library help from the state library other than as reference than there is for his borrowing money from the state treasury when his corn or cotton fails.

The state library must preserve the written records of the state and all things directly and vitally relating to the interests of the state as such, just as the treasury and the auditor's office must preserve the financial interests of the state as such.

The institutional interest of the public library is a minimum interest if it exists in any degree whatever. The public library, while socialistic as a possession of the city, county, or township, is in its primary purpose for the individual as such and not to serve the political organization. The chief end of the public library is to serve the people individually, the chief end of the state library is to serve the state as an institution. One by its nature becomes a reference library in matters of state and the other becomes a circulating library of popular interest on miscellaneous matters. If my distinction is a true one, and I believe it to be so, then there is a line of demarkation which has not been fully recognized, and unless it shall be recognized and some present tendencies checked our state libraries must lose their distinctive features and encroach upon ground not their own, and, while failing in their distinctive mission,

they must even more signally fail in their efforts to assume a popular duty. A popular interest within a state may be conducted from a central state office and should be, as is our public and popular education, but it is not the duty of the state to minister to the individual as such, and when the state attempts to reach and satisfy the personal wants of its individual citizens it is reaching beyond the province of the state and is attempting an end, which not only by its nature but by its extent can never be accomplished. The state can serve but poorly, if it all, a popular interest by direct and immediate ministrations. For the state to furnish its citizens directly with books of entertainment is not wholly unlike furnishing them with theatre tickets, and, in fact, the parallel may be so close that to trace it further is dangerous. Socialism and paternalism doubtless have a truth to teach, but I am not ready to believe it is the whole and only truth. The state library must not become a lending library if it has a state mission. If it has not it is a useless expenditure of state funds and should be cut off the appropriation list.

If my conclusions are true as to the distinction between the state and circulating libraries, and if my general statement is true as to the mission of the state library, then I must follow up for this particular occasion some of the specific duties of the state library, especially in the lines of collection, distribution, and exchange of state publications. I wish to use the word state in its largest significance, not restricting it to one of our own political organizations, but to extend the term to all governments which publish their own records.

In my judgment it is the first duty of each state library to collect and preserve more than one copy of every report, document, bulletin, or other publication of whatever sort printed wholly or in part at the expense of the state. This seems so simple and so much a matter of course and so clearly the duty of the state library that it need not be mentioned, but, on the contrary, I have reason to believe there are many state libraries that do not even do this. I am sure there is not a complete set of the publications for even last year in the Indiana State Library, and I have made the greatest possible effort to collect such, but there was no law demanding a deposit anywhere of these publications. However, I succeeded in having

a bill become a law by the last legislature which demands that the printing authorities deliver to the state library 150 copies of each publication of whatever sort, size, or subject for preservation, distribution, or exchange, and the present administration will spend a portion of its time and energy seeing that this law is enforced to its strictest letter.

These 150 complete sets of our publications will enable us to preserve, distribute, and exchange quite as fully as is desirable. Our new law also provides that the librarian shall distribute at least once a year complete sets of every publication then on hand and undistributed.

I use our own case to illustrate my theory of preparation for this work. It is first the business of the state library to collect every publication printed wholly or in part at the expense of the state.

What is the state's duty in exchange? It should be the ambition in each state library to possess not only its own documents, but equally complete sets from all other states of our Union at least, and then as many foreign states as can be well arranged for and cared for when received.

There are two laws, either of which may be the guide in state exchange; one is the Golden Rule, and the other I shall for convenience designate as the Wooden Rule, because it may be broken on occasion. Whether it is the mission of the state to be altruistic or not I shall not attempt to say. Shall we distribute to those states which do not for any reason or no reason send their publications to us, or shall it be exchange or nothing? Shall I withhold from West Virginia and Georgia because they withhold from Indiana? Shall I follow the Golden Rule, precious and never to be broken, and send to these states regardless of how they treat Indiana, or shall we adopt the Wooden Rule which may be broken, and when Maryland withholds from Michigan let Michigan with her excellent set of publications retaliate?

The Golden Rule is excellent morals regardless of the number who practice it, but, as a matter of business, it is not good unless all concerned in the transactions shall obey it. At present we follow the Golden Rule. I am not sure that we shall continue it as a permanent policy. For the next two years at least each state in the Union will receive a full set of our publications prepaid.

Distribution, not exchange, is, in my judgment, quite as important as the exchange alone.

By distribution, not exchange, I refer to the practice, or lack of it, of each state government sending to all possible depositories within the state where state publications can be deposited and made useful to the citizens of the state. These depositories may in some degree vary both as to number and nature in the several states. I can again illustrate by my own state. We send sets of our publications to each public library within the state, to each college and normal school library, and to each commissioned high school in the state, and the legislative publications to each county clerk within the state.

Is it the duty of the state to place its publications easily accessible to the greatest possible number of citizens? Indiana says yes. Restating my general doctrines briefly, then, I would say it is the especial duty of every state library to have properly arranged upon its shelves a complete set of its own publications, and, if this matter has been so neglected up to the present time that a complete set cannot be had, its neglect should stop with this minute, and from this day on a complete set of state publications should be collected and shelved. Not only should each state have a complete set of its own publications, but it should so distribute to other states that each state shall have a complete set of all the states, and, further, it is the duty of each state library to distribute within the state so generally that as nearly as possible every citizen of the state may have access to all state publications. Our recent movements in education toward social and economic studies demand these books in all parts of the state. Every college, normal and high school, as well as the more progressive citizens, should have access to all these things. Is it so? Should it be so? Can it be made so? In every state in the Union this ought to be in the hands of the state librarian, if he is a librarian, and if he is not then he should be removed from his false position before the people. A state is entitled to a librarian. It is not the business of the secretary of state to collect and distribute the state's books, else the state needs no librarian.

In few states, if any, are these matters well managed where they are under the control of any person other than the librarian; in many not even then.

#### REPORT ON STATE DOCUMENTS.

But the object of the committee represented by me on this occasion is to discover and exhibit the conditions, distribution and exchanges of the state publications in the several states, hoping that we might discover as fully as possible all the facts, and still more strongly hoping that we might make such a revelation of facts that this might be at least the beginning of greater interest in these matters and a more intelligent management of them. I have thus prefaced the statistical portion of the report with my own views as to the mission of the state library as such that we might have some ground that should be made the basis of discussion.

In speaking of the state library as such I have not attempted to state its complete mission. I have only attempted one, but in my judgment its chief mission.

#### *Defects in Results.*

I have long known that it is easy to ask a question that some few persons can interpret, but I am becoming more and more convinced day by day that it is quite impossible to ask a question that no one can misconstrue.

The questions themselves, after careful thought, and after having been submitted to several persons for criticism, have defects. I should have excluded by my questions any possible way of including session laws and court reports in the replies, but my object was to find with regard to other state publications that have no legal force behind them. This defect has rendered unauthoritative two results: first, the number of states sending exchanges; and second, the number of states from which states are receiving exchanges.

I believe it fair to say there were many more defects in the replies than there were in the questions.

1. There were eight states and territories that absolutely refused to reply even after I had made three distinct and separate requests for information. There is no excuse for such conditions if libraries are conducted as they should be conducted.

2. Many librarians who answered at the questions left a large proportion with no attempt at reply. Such are indicated by —— in the table where the answer should appear.

3. Many replies were by such references to information as I could not take time to hunt down.

4. Many attempted reply with almost no information, and they seem to have given what they gave without attempt to post themselves; therefore I know some replies to be wrong and many incomplete. This defect does not apply to a considerable proportion of the libraries addressed.

Enough for defects. The large majority of persons addressed replied promptly, fully, and intelligently, and are entitled to the most sincere thanks and obligations of the members of the committee which I have the honor to represent; and, as spokesman of that committee, I hereby extend to all librarians, whose kindly

efforts assisted us in collecting what I hope and believe will be valuable information, the sincere regards of this committee.

The good, however, to come from this investigation and report must depend on others than the committee. We must hope it will give energy and added intelligence and effort to the subject of collection, exchange and distribution of state publications not before practiced, and if this effort shall add to the efforts and successes in a single state which shall result in better collection, exchange and distribution of its own publication, the effort has been amply repaid.

#### REPORT UPON PUBLICATION, CONDITION AND DISTRIBUTION OF STATE PUBLICATIONS.

##### PUBLICATION AND CONDITION OF HOUSE AND SENATE JOURNALS.

STATE.	Journals are printed from what year?	Bound as one or separate?	Are journals indexed?	Indexed. By whom?	Is indexing well done?	Does name of state appear in back title?
Ala.....	1818.....	1818-1868 as one. 1869 as two.	Yes.....	Clerks of H. & S...	Yes.....	No.
Ariz.....						
Ark.....						
Cal.....	1849-64 annually, 1866 biennially.	Separate.....	Yes.....	Supt. of State Printing.	Yes.....	No.
Col.....	1864.....	Sometimes as one. Sep.	Yes.....	Sec. of State.....	Yes.....	Yes.
Ct.....	H. 1837-S. 1840.	Separate.....	Some years...	Clerks of H. & S...	No.....	No.
Del.....	1798.....	Separate.....	Yes.....	Clerks of H. & S...	No.....	Early ones <i>no</i> , present <i>yes</i> .
Fla.....						
Ga.....	1804.....	Separate.....	Yes.....	Clerks appointed for this purpose.	Generally.....	No.
Idaho.....	First 15 sessions of ter. except 5th state, 1891.	Separate.....	No.....			No.
Ill.....	1818.....	Sep., except in extra sessions.		Doc. and Index department.	Not full enough.	Yes.
Ind.....	1816.....	Separate.....	Since 1833.....	Clerks of H. & S...	No.....	Seldom.
I. T.....						
Ia.....	1838.....	Separate.....	Yes.....	Sec. of State.....	Yes.....	Yes.
Kan.....	1855.....	Separate.....	Yes.....	Sec. of State.....	Yes.....	Yes.
Ky.....	1792.....	Separate.....	Yes.....	Clerks of H. & S...	No.....	No.
La.....						
Me.....	1854, except 1861, '62, '63.	Separate.....	Yes.....	Clerks of H. & S...	No.....	No.
Md.....	1798.....	Early as one. Later Sep.	Yes.....		Yes.....	No.
Mass.....	H. since 1864, S. since 1868.	Separate.....	Yes.....	Clerks of H. & S...	Fair.....	No.
Mich.....	Council J., 1824-34, H. & S. 1835.	Separate.....	Yes.....	Clerks of H. & S...	Yes.....	No.
Minn.....	Ter. 1849-57, state 1857.	Separate.....	Yes.....	Printing expert....	Yes.....	Yes.
Miss.....	1817.....	Separate.....	Yes.....	Clerks of H. & S...	Yes; in recent years.	Yes.
Mo.....	1820.....	Separate.....	Yes.....	Sec. of State.....	Fair.....	Yes.
Mont.....	1864.....	Separate.....	Yes.....	Clerks of H. & S...	Fair.....	No.
Neb.....	1855.....	Separate.....	Yes.....	Clerks of H. & S...	Fair.....	Since 1891.
Nev.....	1864.....	Separate.....	Yes.....	Sec. of State.....	Yes.....	Yes.
N. H.....	1784.....	Together at present; several changes have occurred	Yes.....	Clerks of H. & S...	No.....	Yes.
N. J.....	1710.....	Separate.....	Yes, since 1842.	Clerks of H. & S...	Sometimes.....	No.

PUBLICATION AND CONDITION OF HOUSE AND SENATE JOURNALS.—*Continued.*

STATE.	Journals are printed from what years?	Bound as one or separate?	Are journals indexed?	Indexed. By whom?	Is indexing well done?	Does name of state appear in back title?
N. M.						
N. Y.	1777	Separate	Yes	Clerks of H. & S.	No	No.
N. C.	1800	As one to 1869, sep. since.	Yes	Printer and binder.	Yes	Yes.
N. D.						
O.	1803	Separate	Later ones are.	Clerks of H. & S.	No	No.
O. T.	1893	Separate	Yes	Clerk and committee for that purpose.	Yes	Yes.
Or.	Complete	Separate	Yes	Sec. of State	Fair	No.
Pa.	1682-1790 Min. of Province, 1790.	Separate	Yes	Appointments by clerks of H. & S.	No	Yes.
R. I.	Never.					
S. C.	1818	Early as one, sep. now.	Yes	Clerk of H. & S.	Yes	No.
S. D.						
Tenn.	All years.	Separate	Yes	Clerks of H. & S.	Fair	Recent ones do.
Tex.	Complete	Separate	Yes	Sec. of State	Not always	Generally.
Utah.	From the first	Separate	Will be from present session.	Sec. of State		Yes.
Vt.	1836, earlier rec. in 8 vol.	Separate	Yes	Clerks of H. & S.	Fair	Yes.
Va.	1740	Separate	Yes	Clerks of H. & S.	Fair	No.
Wash.	Early fifties.	Separate	Yes	Clerk of H. & S.	Fair	
W. Va.	From first to 1873 annually, since 1873 biennially.	Separate	Yes	Clerks of H. & S.	Fair	No.
Wis.	1836	Separate	Yes	Clerks of H. & S.	Fair	From 1885.
Wyo.	1895	Separate	No.			Yes.

*Eight states and territories not heard from, after sending three inquiry sheets.*

All publish except R. I.	All separate now, except N. H.; six have at times combined.	Indexed now in all states except Idaho.	Indexing done by: Clerks of H. & S., 21; Printer, 3; Sec. of State, 8; Special appointees, 2.	Well done? Yes, 11; No, 9; Fair, 13.	Name of state in title, No, 18; Yes, 18.
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## PUBLICATION AND CONDITION OF DOCUMENTS.

STATE.	Department of official reports bound.	Are documents continuously pagged?	Is there a general index?	Does name of state appear in back title?	Do documents include all reports?	Are contents of documents fixed by law?
Ala.	1869.	No.	No.	No.	Yes	No.
Ariz.	1740					
Ark.						
Cal.	1849-64 annually, 1866 biennially.	No.	No.	No.	Yes	No.
Col.	None.					
Ct.	1850	No.	No.	No.	Yes	
Del.	None					
Fla.						
Ga.	1875	No.	No.	No.	Yes	No.
Idaho.	None					
Ill.	1838	No.	No.	Yes	No.	Yes.
Ind.	1836	A few of the earlier.	No.	No.	No.	No.
I. T.						
Ia.	1854	No.	No.	Yes	No.	Yes.
Kan.	1861	No.	No.	Yes	No.	Yes.
Ky.	1839	No.	No.	No.	Yes	Yes.
La.						
Me.	1833	No.	No.	No.	Yes	Yes.
Md.	1825	No.	No.	No.	Yes	Yes.
Mass.	1857	No.	No.	No.	Yes	Yes.
Mich.	1842	No.	No.	No.	No.	Yes.

## PUBLICATION AND CONDITION OF DOCUMENTS.—Continued.

STATE.	Department of ficial reports bound.	Are documents continuously paged?	Is there a gen- eral index?	Does name of state appear in back title?	Do documents include all re- ports?	Are contents of documents fixed by law?
Minn.		Yes.	For each vol.	Yes.	Yes.	Yes.
Miss.	1870.	No.	No.	Yes.	Yes.	
Mo.	None.					
Mont.	None.					
Neb.	1871, only for our own li- brary.					
Nev.	1864.	No.	No.	Yes.	Yes.	Yes.
N. H.	1839, generally.	No.	No.	Yes.	Yes.	Yes.
N. J.	1839.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.
N. M.						
N. Y.	1830.	No.	No.	No.	Yes.	No.
N. C.		No.	No.	No.	Yes.	No.
N. D.						
O.	1836.	Yes.	No.	No.	No.	Yes.
O. T.	None.					
Or.	Recent years.	No.	No.	No.	Yes.	
Pa.	1886.	No.	No.	Yes.	Only dep't re- ports.	Yes.
R. I.	1750.	No.	No.	Yes.	No.	No.
S. C.	1813.	Yes.	No.	No.	Yes.	Yes.
S. D.						
Tenn.	1852.	After 1895.	Yes.	Recent ones do.	Yes.	Yes.
Tex.	1884.	Yes.	No.	Generally.	Yes.	No.
Utah.	1897.	No.	No.	Yes.	Yes.	No.
Vt.	1863.	No.	No.	Yes.	Yes.	
Va.	1870.	No.	No.	No.	Yes.	No.
Wash.	None.					
W. Va.	1872.	No.	No.	No.	Yes.	Yes.
Wis.	1853.	No.	No.	Since 1866.	Yes.	Yes.
Wyo.	None.					
Documents bound under some name:		Continuously paged: Yes, 5; No, 23.	One general in- dex: Yes, 1; No, 28.	Name of state in back title: Yes, 14; No, 16.	Do documents include all re- ports? Yes, 20; No, 8.	Contents fixed by law? Yes, 17; No, 11.

## EXCHANGE AND DISTRIBUTION OF STATE PUBLICATIONS.

STATE.	Do you ex- change with other states?	Do you send in exchange all you print?	What state of- ficer sends and receives ex- changes?	From how many states do you re- ceive fairly full exchange?	To whom do you distribute in your state?	Do you shelve and make acces- sible these ex- changes?
Ala.	Codes and re- ports.		Sec. of State & State Librarian.	42.	Sec. of State does that.	Yes.
Ariz.						
Ark.						
Cal.	Yes.	No.	Sec. of State.	45.	State and Co. offi- cers, State Insti- tutions, Libs. on application.	Yes.
Col.	Yes.	All we have ac- cess to.	Sec. of State.	13.	State Institutions and Libraries.	Yes.
Ct.	No provision by law.		Sec. of State.		Libraries and Hist. Soc.	
Del.	Only laws and court reports.	All accessible.	Each officer his own.	47.	Hist. Soc., Law Li- brary, Del. Col- lege.	Yes.
Fla.						
Ga.	No provisions of law.	No.	State Librarian.		State officers and courts.	No.
Idaho.	Only laws and reports.	Each dep't as it likes.	Each officer his own.			Will do so soon.
Ill.	Laws and re- ports.	No.	Sec. of State.	3.	Officers and Libra- ries.	Yes.
Ind.	Yes.	Yes.	State Librarian.	25.	Officers, Institu- tions, and Libra- ries.	Yes.
I. T.						
Ia.	Yes.	Yes.	Sec. of State.	26.	Officers and Institu- tions.	Yes.
Kan.	Yes.	Yes.	State Librarian.	27.	Members of Legis- lature.	Yes.



EXCHANGE AND DISTRIBUTION OF STATE PUBLICATIONS.—*Continued.*

STATE.	Do you exchange with other states?	Do you send in exchange all your print?	What state officer sends and receives exchanges?	From how many states do you receive fairly full exchange?	To whom do you distribute in your state?	Do you shelve and make accessible these exchanges?
Ky.....	Yes.....	Yes.....	State Librarian.	.....	None.....	Yes.....
La.....	Yes.....	Yes.....	State Librarian.	47.....	Officers, Institutions, Libraries.	Yes.....
Mc.....	Yes.....	Yes.....	State Librarian.	47.....	To any one on application.	Yes.....
Md.....	Yes.....	Yes.....	State Librarian.	47.....	Officers and Libraries.	Yes.....
Mass.....	Yes.....	Yes.....	Sec. of State...	47.....	Associate Libraries.	Yes.....
Mich.....	Yes.....	Yes.....	State Librarian.	47.....	Officers and Institutions.	Yes.....
Minn.....	Yes.....	Yes.....	State Librarian.	45.....	Officers of State and Co.	No room.
Miss.....	Yes.....	Yes.....	Sec. of State...	47.....	State Schools and the press.	Yes.....
Mo.....	Laws and court reports.	Each dep't as it chooses.	Sec. of State...	30.....	Libraries.....	Yes.....
Mont.....	We reciprocate.	Yes.....	State Librarian.	47.....	State and Co. officers.	Yes.....
Neb.....	Yes.....	Yes.....	State Librarian.	21.....	Towns, Libraries and officers.	Yes.....
Nev.....	Yes.....	Yes.....	Sec. of State...	47.....	Officers and Colleges.	Yes.....
N. H.....	Yes.....	Yes, generally.	State Librarian.	21.....	Officers and Colleges.	Yes.....
N. J.....	Yes.....	No.....	State Librarian.	47.....	Colleges having lib. of more than 5000 vols.	No.....
N. M.....	Yes.....	No.....	State Librarian.	38.....	Libraries on request.	Yes.....
N. Y.....	Yes.....	No.....	State Librarian.	38.....	State and Co. officers.	Yes.....
N. C.....	Laws and court reports.	No.....	Sec. of State...	28.....	All Educational Institutions.	Yes.....
N. D.....	Yes.....	Yes.....	State Librarian.	42.....	Colleges and Libraries.	Yes.....
O.....	Yes.....	Yes.....	Ter. Librarian.	33.....	Officers and Colleges.	Yes.....
O. T.....	Yes.....	Yes.....	Ter. Librarian.	33.....	Officers and Colleges.	Yes.....
Or.....	No provision by law.	Yes.....	Sec. of State...	47.....	Officers and Colleges.	Yes.....
Pa.....	Yes.....	Yes.....	State Librarian.	18.....	Officers and Colleges.	Yes.....
R. I.....	Yes.....	Yes.....	Sec. of State...	17.....	Officers and Colleges.	Yes.....
S. C.....	Yes.....	Yes.....	State Librarian.	43.....	Officers and Colleges.	Yes.....
S. D.....	Yes.....	As the law directs.	State Librarian.	48.....	State and Co. officers.	Yes.....
Tenn.....	Yes.....	As the law directs.	State Librarian.	48.....	Officers and Institutions.	Yes.....
Tex.....	Discretion of Sec. of State.	No.....	Sec. of State...	.....	Officers and Institutions.	Yes.....
Utah.....	Yes.....	Yes.....	Sec. of State...	.....	Officers and Institutions.	Yes.....
Vt.....	Yes.....	Yes.....	State Librarian.	33.....	Colleges and Libraries.	Yes.....
Va.....	Yes.....	Yes.....	Sec. of State...	47.....	Colleges.....	Some yes, some no.
Wash.....	Laws and court reports.	No.....	Sec. of State...	47.....	Officers.....	Yes.....
W. Va.....	Laws and court reports.	No.....	State Librarian.	23.....	Officers and Institutions.	Yes.....
Wis.....	We reciprocate.	Yes.....	Sec. of State...	8.....	Officers, Institutions and Libraries.	Yes.....
Wyo.....	On request.....	On request.....	Sec. of State...	11.....	Officers and Institutions.	Yes.....
<p>Do you exchange with states? Laws and court reports, 7; Journals also, 25; Reciprocate, 2; On request, 1; Discretion of Sec., 4.</p> <p>Exchange all printed matter? Yes, 24; No, 12.</p> <p>What officer exchanges? Sec. State, 19; State Lib'n., 21; Each d'pt., 2.</p> <p>All, 18; Rest ranging from 3 to 30.</p> <p>Officers, all; Libraries, 15; Colleges, 5.</p> <p>Are these exchanges shelved and made useful? Yes, 35; No, 4.</p>						

COMMITTEE: { W. E. HENRY, *Indiana State Library.*  
C. B. GALBREATH, *Ohio State Library.*  
ARTHUR H. CHASE, *New Hampshire State Library.*

## REPORT OF THE CO-OPERATION COMMITTEE.

BY THOMAS L. MONTGOMERY, *Chairman, Wagner Institute, Philadelphia.*

THE report of the Co-operation Committee differs very radically from that of former years in that it is but a preface to a number of papers on co-operative work.

At the meeting of the executive board of the A. L. A. held at Harvard College on Nov. 25, it was decided to have a whole session of this conference given up to the presentation and discussion of the co-operative work of the past year. From a number of letters received through Mr. Andrews, who was last year the chairman of this committee, it was thought that a good many co-operative measures had been undertaken in the west and in the central states, which might be made known to the whole profession by means of special papers in a session of this kind. In this the committee was disappointed, and the few replies received in answer to 53 letters presented the most meagre details. The committee have, however, secured a number of papers which promise a most interesting session, the leaders of the discussions in each instance being practical workers in the departments of which they speak. It only remains for the committee to touch incidentally on the co-operative work that has come to its attention during the past year concerning which no special papers will be presented.

In California Mr. George T. Clark states that a bibliography of works relating to California is being prepared through the industry and enthusiasm of one of the members of the California Library Club, and 5000 titles have already been reported upon.

In Massachusetts the Library Art Club, of which Miss Sargent is the secretary, is accomplishing much for the smaller libraries.

In Maine, Mr. George T. Little reports that the librarians are trying to arrange a co-operative list of expensive books and serial publications in order that these may be made available to the libraries of the state which might thereby be saved the continual borrowing from the Boston Public Library and from Harvard. The plan looks to the prevention of the duplication of such sets as the Transactions of the Royal Society and the seeing that each librarian is in-

formed of what the other is buying in the way of works of reference. In Bay City, Michigan, Mrs. MacDonnell reports that the librarians are working for the passage of a bill to promote the establishment and efficiency of public libraries.

Mr. Utley, of Detroit, Mr. Hill, of Newark, Miss Countryman, of Minneapolis, and Mr. Chase, of Concord, N. H., report that no co-operative measures have been forwarded in those sections during the year. Mr. Whitaker, of the University of Colorado, writes that the Colorado Library Association has been planning a union list of periodicals, but that it has not as yet materialized.

A circular has been received from Miss Boardman, of the state library at Columbus, O., entitled "The Library Extension Committee, Ohio Library Commission," which contains a number of questions, the answers to which will enable the Ohio Library Association to keep exact statistics of all libraries in the state.

Mrs. Fairchild, of the New York State Library School, reports that the school is working in co-operation with two committees of the American Historical Association, first with the Committee on the Teaching of History in Secondary Schools and Colleges. Mr. Wyer, of the class of 1898, at the request of this committee, compiled a bibliography on the subject. The report and bibliography is to be published by Macmillan. A similar piece of work has been begun for the Committee on History of Colonies and Dependencies, the chairman of the committee being Henry E. Bourne, of Adelbert College. Three members of the class of 1900, Miss Haines, Miss Saxon and Miss Mudge, will do the work. The school will also co-operate with the A. L. A. Publishing Section in indexing some of the sets by which the section proposes to extend its work.

A very interesting leaflet has reached the committee, describing some correspondence with regard to the Library Division of the Seaboard Air Line. The first president of the board, Mr. St. John, has gathered together 10 travelling libraries, each containing 100 or more books, which are moved from point to point and placed

in charge of an assistant industrial agent of the company. Mr. Andrew Carnegie made it possible to mention this in a report of the committee on co-operation, by contributing \$1000, to be used in extending the work. Mrs. Heard, of Middleton, Ga., who has charge of the libraries, is given full credit for their successful operation.

In looking up the word "co-operation," to find out what might be expected of the committee, the chairman found that "co-operation" in industry means "the equitable distribution of all gain among those who earn it." While this definition might apply to those who have been reaping fortunes in connection with the Publishing Section and to the bank accounts fattened by "Poole's index," we felt that it had its limitations when applied to other schemes of work. Herbert Spencer prefers to use the word in its widest sense as signifying the combining activity of citizens under whatever system of regulation. We would prefer, however, to describe co-operation, when referring to library matters, as an active interest felt in any scheme of work by an individual, with the power to impart his or her enthusiasm to others. Under this latter definition, it would seem that the name of Miss Wallace should be mentioned first in the extension of co-operative work in the South during the past year.

The co-operative work which the University of Illinois State Library School has done since its foundation has been in connection with the following interests: Chicago Children's Aid Society, Central Art Association, Northwestern University Settlement, Chicago University Settlement, Helen Heath Settlement, Aloha Club, Chicago Commons, all these being within Chicago; Illinois State Library Association, Illinois State Teachers' Association, Urbana Public Library, and Travelling libraries\*. The work with each may be briefly outlined:

*Chicago Children's Aid Society.*—The home library work, started by this society in 1893, was in 1894 taken over by students of the library school. Groups of children were formed in the worst parts of Chicago, on the South Side, the West Side, and the North Side. Library students solicited books and money, and gave their time as visitors. The work flourished up to the time that the school moved from Chicago. The Chicago Library Club has since taken charge of the home libraries, centring them at

the Chicago Normal School, where they are under the supervision of Miss Irene Warren, a graduate of the library school, and where they can enlist the normal school students as visitors.

*Central Art Association.*—The association, which is formed "to promote and disperse a knowledge of art among the people," works with the children's home libraries through its secretary, who meets and explains to different groups of children the making of casts and of newspaper illustrations, and shows them paintings by good artists.

The *Northwestern University Settlement*, the *Chicago University Settlement*, the *Helen Heath Settlement*, the *Aloha Club* of working girls, and the *Chicago Commons* each asked the help of the library school in arranging and caring for their books. The students willingly gave their time, and organized in each instance a library of several hundred volumes, and retained partial supervision of it afterward.

*Illinois State Library Association.*—The school has aided in and conducted the work of the "bureau of information" started by the association in 1896, and it has been charged with the compilation of statistics on libraries in the state collected by the association and its members, according to the plan adopted in 1897, and its share of this work will be ready in June.

*Illinois State Teachers' Association.*—In connection with a supervisory committee appointed by this association, one of the library students is preparing a library manual for the use of the teachers in the high school and the grades, which is to include chapters on different classes of reference books and chapters on the care of books and periodicals in the schools.

*Urbana Public Library.*—The seniors in the library school have served during this year under the authorization of the board of trustees of the Urbana Public Library in opening the library from 3 to 6 each afternoon during 10 months of the year. The library had been open only from 6 to 9, and the library funds forbade engaging extra help for extra hours, so the trustees gladly accepted the offer under conditions which would protect their readers from too frequent changes at the loan desk.

*Travelling libraries.*—In February, 1899, the students of the library school contributed money to buy a library of 50-60 volumes to begin circulating in Champaign county, and through their example the Champaign Social

\* Abstract.

Science Club was led to contribute Travelling library no. 2 for the same county. As the Illinois legislature has again failed to pass a bill for a library commission and travelling libraries, the school will continue its active interest in the matter by trying to secure more collections of books for exchange. It has now secured the co-operation of the Illinois Agricultural Experiment Station for a vigorous campaign. The director of the station has promised to speak of travelling libraries at every farmer's institute in the state, and to solicit books and money from associations and individuals.

Mr. Henry, the state librarian of Indiana, proposes a plan for utilizing the books now wasted as duplicates. It goes a step further than any clearing-house scheme hitherto undertaken in that it includes annual reports and pamphlets as well as books. (*See L. J.*, 23:576.) Mr. Henry states that the library is not wholly unselfish in this effort, as it will claim the first right to satisfy its own needs from the materials sent in.

At the second conference of the Societa Bibliographica Italiana, held at Turin, Sept. 8, 1898, it was decided that a special committee should be appointed to investigate and report upon the chemical reagents that may be employed without damage to manuscripts. Regarding the deterioration of paper the association voted to recommend that the government regulate by law the character of the paper to be used for the public acts, for the documents to be preserved in the archives, and for a given number of books which the printers are required to contribute to government libraries.

The formation of a National Association of State Librarians was accomplished at Washington, Nov. 16, 1898, at a meeting at which 10 states were represented. Most of the time of the conference was given up to discussions of questions relating to the more perfect organization of state legislative documents and the more complete distribution to all states of all publications issued by each state. The organization is in no way opposed to the A. L. A.

Mr. James Warrington, of Philadelphia, has started a list of works on psalmody. This he proposes to make the foundation of a union list of books on that subject (*See L. J.*, 24:178). He

asks that librarians report to him any titles not on his list and any other bibliographical information or correction, and proposes to publish the revised list from time to time at his own expense.

It was the intention of the Free Library of Philadelphia a year or two since to prepare a dictionary of historical fiction, but it having been announced that Mrs. Zella A. Dixon was preparing such a work, the matter was not pressed. It seems that there is a large amount of ground uncovered by Mrs. Dixon's book, and in co-operation with a large number of the principals and teachers of schools of Philadelphia, arrangements were made last year for the collection of the necessary material and ultimately for the publication of such a dictionary under the auspices of the board of trustees of the Free Library of Philadelphia. With the assent of the board, over 900 circulars inviting co-operation have been addressed to various persons likely to be interested in the work. At the present time over 230 readers have entered upon the work as invited by that circular, upwards of 1100 novels have been assigned to the readers, and about 500 reports have been received, and, of course, many more are likely to be handed in almost daily. There remains, however, approximately the large number of 5000 volumes still to be assigned and reported on. It seems that in no work could the value of co-operation be more keenly needed than in undertaking such a task as this dictionary of historical fiction. It is a matter in which every librarian by reading five or more books could facilitate a very important work. It is a task involving little or no expenditure of time if divided amongst a large number. The real bulk of the work will fall upon the editor and the editorial committee. It is felt that the work should be cordially endorsed by the A. L. A., and that an energetic effort should be made to obtain the assistance of at least 500 more readers.

In conclusion, the committee report that they have communicated with the editors of *Golden Days* and the *Youth's Companion*, as requested by the vote at the Chautauqua conference. The replies of the editors were unfavorable to any change of the present size or form of either publication.

## REPORT OF THE A. L. A. PUBLISHING SECTION.

BY WILLIAM C. LANE, *Treasurer, Librarian of Harvard University.*

AS in previous years, the Publishing Section presents a brief statement in regard to each of its publications. The accompanying table shows for each one the excess of expenditure over receipts, or of receipts over expenditure at the beginning of the year 1898, the operations of the year, and the resulting excess of expenditure or receipts at the end of the year. Separate columns also show the number of copies of each publication sold in 1898 and the number of copies still on hand at the end of the year. A few additional words of explanation in regard to some of the items is all that is required.

*A. L. A. index.* — As reported last year, all the 750 copies which were printed have been sold. In reply to circulars which were distributed in the autumn, asking those who already owned the work whether they would prefer to receive a supplement to the original book, or a new edition including the material of the old, and sold, of course, at an increased price, the reply was so distinctly in favor of the new edition that the Publishing Section had no hesitation in asking the editor, Mr. W. I. Fletcher, to prepare a new edition rather than a mere supplement. Mr. Fletcher already has the work well in hand, and the new edition may be expected in the spring of 1900. It will probably be about twice the size of the old edition.

*Reading for the young.* — A supplement to this book was issued in 1897, and had a fair sale when first published. The sales for 1898 have naturally been less, but no expenses in connection with the book have been incurred, so that the net receipts have diminished the sum now invested in this publication to about \$500.

*List of subject headings.* — A new edition of this List, with an appendix of tables for the arrangement of subheads under Countries and states, Cities, the Bible, Shakespeare, Languages, and under the Country and Language subdivisions of the forms Literature, was issued in June, 1898. About 350 of the 500 copies printed were sold before Jan. 1, and since that time it has been found necessary to print a second lot of 500 copies to supply the steady demand.

*Books for girls and women.* — It will be noticed that the sale of this book, 381 copies, considerably exceeds the sales of the previous 16 months, which only amounted to 277 copies.

*Books for boys and girls.* — This little handbook, which is sold at three cents when taken in lots of 100 or more, has had a fairly good sale, so that we have had to print a third thousand; but we should like to see it in use in large quantities by a still greater number of libraries.

*Printed cards for books.* — 1330 titles have been cataloged during the year, about the same as the average of recent years. We intend to include all books sent to us by publishers which are in any degree suitable for public libraries. Of those received, a few considered too technical are omitted; and we also omit most of the school text-books, juvenile picture-books, and books of devotion which reach us, but in general these are not sent by publishers. English books which bear an American imprint or are regularly handled by an American house we include as well as American books, but we do not try to catalog English books which are not regularly on sale in this country.

*Printed cards for periodicals.* — The character of this work, which was begun in February, 1898, was described at some length in last year's report. Up to Dec. 31, 1898, the total number of titles cataloged was 2645, and the number of cards printed and distributed amounted to 168,845. The 16 subscribers to the full set, as reported last year, has now increased to 20, and all the extra sets which were printed at the beginning have been taken up. On the other hand, we have only 16 partial subscribers, *i. e.*, such as take the cards for certain specified publications only. While the number of full subscribers is beyond what we had expected, the number of partial subscribers is far less. On Jan. 1 the price of the cards was reduced from \$3 to \$2.50 per hundred titles for the full subscribers, and from \$4.50 to \$4 per hundred for the partial subscribers. A further reduction in the latter price would possibly have the effect of increasing considerably the number of these subscribers, but the labor involved in the distribution of cards to them is so much greater than in the case of the others that the price is necessarily higher. At the beginning of the year 1899 the five libraries which contribute the material for the work consulted in regard to dropping a few of the periodicals which had been found less useful or

had been included by error, and recommended the inclusion of a number of other publications, mostly those of American scientific societies and of American colleges. While the number of serials is thus increased from 184 to 236, the actual number of titles to be cataloged in the course of the year will not, it is thought, be much enlarged. The character of the list as a whole has been very much strengthened by the changes, and the special attention of partial subscribers, and of those who might become so, is invited to the additional list of periodicals now included.

In response to a pressing demand from several subscribers the experiment has been made, beginning with the cards sent out March 25, of printing at the bottom of the card a subject heading as a guide in classifying the titles. These headings are, for the most part, simply those which the library that catalogs the titles would use for its own catalog. As the work is done by five libraries, each with a catalog on a different system, it will be seen that consistency in the form of these headings cannot be expected. They must be taken as simple suggestions to help the cataloger, and not as guides to be implicitly followed. As suggestions, it is hoped that they may be of sufficient value to repay the trouble of printing.

As supplementary to these printed cards for *current* publications, the Publishing Section has recently offered to furnish cards for certain complete sets extending back over a number of years, and for books of composite authorship. Among the sets included in the first offer are the proceedings of the American Association for the Advancement of Science, 1875 to 1898 (the addresses of the vice-presidents only to be cataloged), the Bulletin and Memoirs of the New York State Museum from 1887 to 1898, the annual reports of the Smithsonian Institution and of the U. S. National Museum from 1886 to the present day, and the annual reports of the Bureau of Ethnology from 1879 to 1895. The books of a composite character for which cards are offered are Depew's "One hundred years of American commerce," the "Liber scriptorum" of the Authors Club, the "Oxford House papers," three series, and a number of German *Festschriften*. For the latter, which are not likely to be found outside college libraries, we cannot expect many subscribers; but for the others, and for the scientific proceedings and reports which are in a large number of libraries, we ought to have a correspondingly large number of subscriptions. With this in view, the price has been made as low as possible,

viz: \$1 per hundred cards. It is safe to say that very few libraries that own these annual reports and proceedings have felt that they could catalog them in the ordinary way. It will be interesting to see if this cheaper and uniform method of cataloging meets with favor for such cases. It should be added that subject headings will be printed at the bottom of the card, as is done on the cards for printed books; and, the work being done under the direct supervision of the Publishing Section, a greater degree of consistency may be expected than is possible on the cards for periodicals.

New ways in which printed catalog cards can be made useful are constantly being suggested. The Warner Library Club some months ago asked whether the Publishing Section would prepare and print cards for the separate authors included in its "Library of the world's best literature," so that references to the articles contained in this extensive work might be placed directly in the catalogs of the libraries owning it. The Publishing Section agreed to prepare and print cards if the Warner Club would buy the edition outright, and superintend the sale and distribution of them. One hundred sets of the cards have just been printed and delivered to the publishers of the Warner Library, and we are informed that most of them have already been subscribed for.

The Massachusetts Library Club has also been discussing whether it would not be useful to issue printed catalog cards for the reports included in the Massachusetts state documents and for the special articles contained in many of them. With the co-operation of the state librarian, who agreed to pay for the expense of printing and free distribution to all the libraries in the state which received the documents, the library club undertook to provide for the cataloging; and the cards will probably be printed for the club by the Publishing Section. The idea is to include cards both under author and subject headings for each of the regular current reports, with notes, giving the date when the report was first included in the state documents and other similar items of interest. Cards will also be printed for the monographs, which appear in considerable number in some of the reports, such as those of the Board of Health and the Department of Agriculture. It is intended that from year to year new cards shall be issued and distributed for the new monographs that appear, but for the regular annual reports no new cards will be needed. The necessary subject headings will be printed at the top of the card.

It has recently been suggested that an index of agricultural literature, either on cards or in book form, was a desideratum; and it is probable that the support of a sufficient number of theological libraries and of students of theology could be secured to warrant a card index of theological periodicals, carried out in the same way as the cards now prepared for articles in other current periodical publications. If we should undertake to catalog in this way a group of theological periodicals, we might increase the value of the cards by including among them the theological articles which appear from time to time in the more general periodicals already indexed.

The possible extension of printed catalog cards applied to the indexing of current literature raises interesting questions in regard to the relative convenience of material printed in this form and material printed annually in book form, as in the "Annual literary index." It is evident that if the number of cards annually issued should greatly increase, the labor of assigning subject headings to them and incorporating them in the catalog of the library would in time become very burdensome, so that it would probably become necessary to apply some uniform scheme of subject headings such as that provided in the Decimal classification, in the Expansive classification, or in the scheme proposed by the Royal Society. Even with subject headings already provided the card system, if very greatly extended, would almost surely break down. Under the Royal Society's plan of indexing scientific literature, for example, 160,000 cards a year would have to be dealt with, and there are few, if any, libraries which could undertake to arrange and preserve from year to year so bulky a collection of cards as this. Further consideration of the subject need not be had in this place, but the discussion of the Royal Society's plans may lead to some useful modification of our present methods.

*Annotated cards in English history.*—The proposal made last year for taking up and continuing Mr. W. Dawson Johnston's plan of issuing catalog cards for current books on English history, with annotations, has been carried out, Mr. Johnston selecting the titles and supplying annotations. The 26 titles of books published in 1897 have been issued, and about 60 titles for the books of 1898 will be published in four quarterly instalments, of which two are already out. The note attempts to express concisely the contents and character of the book, its scope and value, and its relation to other au-

thorities on the same subject. Reference is also made to all important reviews of the book which have appeared up to the time when the card is printed. The cards are ordinarily issued not less than six months after the publication of the books, and it is intended that they shall form a permanently valuable record, such as will be always useful in a card catalog. Few subscriptions have been received so far, but enough to cover the expense of publication. The value of the cards is such that a large number of subscriptions ought to be received as soon as it is realized how useful they may be. Of the cards for 1897 and 1898 only 100 sets have been printed, so that those libraries that wish to be sure of obtaining them should not delay in sending in their subscriptions.

*Supplement to the A. L. A. catalog.*—It was expected that this Supplement would be ready for distribution early in the year, but the committee reports that it has been unavoidably delayed in its work, because it has undertaken to secure the judgment of experts in making up the lists. It is evident that the authority and value of the Supplement as a guide in the selection of books is in this way much increased, but it is unfortunate that its issue should be so long delayed. It is another illustration of the fact that the association ought itself to have the means to employ and suitably remunerate persons competent to take charge and carry out work of this kind, instead of having to depend upon those who are already heavily burdened with duties which demand all their strength. Advice and direction is all that should be asked of a committee such as this, composed of active librarians. Yet some one endowed with skill and judgment must give much time to preparing the material to be submitted to the experts whose advice is asked, and to putting the whole in form for the press. This work the association ought to provide for; but so far is it from being able to do this, that when the question of printing the Supplement was presented to the Publishing Section a year ago, the Section did not feel justified at that time in undertaking even so much, and the association has to thank the New York State Library for accepting the Supplement to be issued as one of its own publications, and allowing us to have extra copies printed for our use.

*Portrait index, and other works in preparation.*—Work on the Portrait index has gone on quietly and continuously throughout the year, with the co-operation of a number of helpers in different parts of the country. Material amounting to about 30,000 cards has been re-

ceived, and it is now time that some one should be regularly employed on the work of consolidation and revision. The assistant secretary of the Section has too many other demands upon her time to put any steady work on the Portrait index.

Acting on the suggestion made by Mrs. Fairchild, the executive board appointed a committee to consider the issue of a series of short library tracts dealing with elementary topics, and of a character to arouse interest among people unfamiliar with library affairs, and to give preliminary information in regard to the organization and usefulness of public libraries. The committee will report direct to the association, and it is hoped that the printing of the tracts may be begun immediately by the Publishing Section.

Several other publications have been suggested to the Section, among them a list of reference books for the guidance of library students and catalogers, and an index to the more important articles in the various library journals, English and American, and to other articles on library administration which have appeared in other bibliographical periodicals.

Up to the present time all our publications, except the "A. L. A. index," have been handled for us by the Library Bureau, and the association is under lasting obligations to the Bureau for the pains and interest taken on our behalf. The Library Bureau, however, is not primarily a publishing house; and while it is in direct communication with the libraries of the country perhaps more completely than any other one agency, it naturally does not reach the book trade, and it is thought that many of our publications might have had a larger sale if we could have come into more direct relations with the bookseller. Arrangements are therefore being made with Messrs. Houghton, Mifflin & Co. to handle our publications in the future, except such as are of purely technical interest and would be bought only by libraries and library workers, like the "List of subject headings" and the several series of printed catalog cards. It is expected, however, that the Library Bureau will continue to keep on sale all the publications of the Library Association as in the past.

In accordance with votes passed by the executive board, the trustees of the Endowment Fund, having held the interest received on account of the fund until it was sufficient to cover the \$1000 (the sum of the three loans which it had formerly made to the Publishing Section), plus \$110.83, the amount of the interest on the

same loans, cancelled the notes which they held and returned them to the Publishing Section. In other words, they appropriated \$1110.83 of their income to the uses of the Publishing Section, which enabled the Publishing Section to repay the loans formerly received from the Endowment Fund. In February, 1899, the trustees made a further payment from their income of \$70.90 to the Publishing Section for its uses.

This brief survey of the activities of the Publishing Section, and of the new duties which it may be called upon to take up, make it evident that some new arrangement for the future is desirable. The work has clearly outgrown the conditions under which it is at present carried on. In January, 1899, in making a statement to the trustees of the Endowment Fund in regard to the details of our work, I said:

"This rapid review of the work of the Section may serve to show how much it has developed, especially during the last three years. It has worked under conditions which in some respects have greatly favored it, but are likely to hamper its further development. It has enjoyed the hospitality of the Boston Athenæum for over two years, and so has been spared all expense for rent, light, and heat, but the space there available is strictly limited, and as the material which it handles accumulates, it must seek better accommodation elsewhere, but not without increased expenditure. An assistant secretary has been employed for two years, but from the beginning the labor of superintendence on the part of the secretary-treasurer has been gratuitous, and his labor now exceeds what a man with other engrossing cares can give. Greater progress might have been made, and the work of the Section been more efficiently conducted, if the whole time, or a large portion of the time of a skilful manager could have been devoted to its affairs; but such a measure has been absolutely beyond the power of the association to carry out. With the work which the Publishing Section now has before it, however, it is essential that some such arrangement should be made, and it is not likely that the profits to be derived from the Section's undertakings will allow of adequate expenditure for superintendence and for rent, because, as has been said already, the very object of the Section's existence is to take up projects which do not appeal to the publisher who conducts his business for profit. That some of its publications have paid expenses is due to the



fact that expenses have been kept down by the conditions under which we have worked and that a profit has not been asked for.

"It should also be pointed out that there is much work of a routine nature now done by the secretary and treasurer of the association which takes more of the time and strength of those officers than is right, that would naturally be turned over to the Publishing Section, had it a sufficient staff. The Publishing Section office would thus become the central office for all the activities of the Library Association, would relieve its officers of unnecessary drudgery, and would insure these various interests being systematically looked after."

To provide for the increased expenditure which is involved, either the Endowment Fund must be increased so as to provide a larger income, or, if this is not immediately possible, we should in some way obtain a guarantee from one or more individuals interested in the work of the association, that the expenditure for rent and additional assistance shall be met. The statement for last year shows a balance of

\$718 of receipts over expenses, but the reason of this is that no new book publications have been taken up in which money has been sunk, and that the printed cards have shown some profit. During the coming year considerable sums not to be immediately repaid will have to be put into the new edition of the A. L. A. index, into the Portrait index, and, perhaps, into other undertakings, and since the treasury of the Publishing Section is independent of the treasury of the association, we cannot enter upon these new undertakings without having some definite assurance behind us of the necessary capital. If \$1000 or \$1500 could be guaranteed to the Section to make good any possible deficit, the work the Section has planned at present could be pushed on vigorously and efficiently during the coming year, and it is quite possible that only a small part of the sum guaranteed would have to be actually called for. That either by this means or in some other way the proper development of the Section's work shall be provided for is to be urgently hoped.

## STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTS, JANUARY 1 TO DECEMBER 31, 1898.

Publications.	Copies sold in 1898.	Copies on hand Dec. 31, 1898.	Balances, Jan. 1, 1898, being excess of expenditures or receipts to date.		Operations, Jan. 1 to Dec. 31, 1898.		Balances, Dec. 31, 1898, being excess of expenditures or receipts to date.	
			Spent.	Received.	Expenses.	Receipts.	Spent.	Received.
A. L. A. index.....	1	0			\$4.55	\$4.55		
2d edition. Prelim. expenses.					88.84		\$88.84	
Reading for the young.....	203	571	\$666.26			167.47	498.79	
List of subject headings.....	403	143		\$128.41	514.00	470.60		\$85.01
Books for girls and women.....	381	614			167.64	167.64		
Paper and ink.....	2		7.17			.18	6.99	
Fine arts bibliography.....	127	349	534.69			82.72	451.97	
Books for boys and girls.....	791	1,235	30.17		13.50	27.17	25.50	
Portrait index. Prelim. expenses.			337.77		26.40		364.17	
Printed cards for books.....	175,577			193.60	811.71	940.27		322.16
Printed cards for periodicals.....	168,845		3.90		1,245.55	1,598.32		348.87
Annotated English hist'y cards.....					77.35	186.52		109.17
List of French fiction.....	456	508				22.43		22.43
A. L. A. Proceedings.....	1	1,350			.75	.50	.25	
Totals.....			\$1,588.96	\$322.01	\$2,950.29	\$3,668.37	\$1,436.51	\$887.64
General balance.....				1,266.95	718.08			548.87
			\$1,588.96	\$1,589.96	\$3,668.37	\$3,668.37	\$1,436.51	\$1,436.51

Assets and Liabilities.	Bal. Jan. 1, 1898.		Operations of 1898.		Bal. Dec. 31, 1898.	
	Dr.	Cr.	Dr.	Cr.	Dr.	Cr.
General expense and income account.....		\$395.36	\$1,145.28	\$2,646.11		\$1,896.19
Endowment fund.....		1,000.00	1,110.83	110.83		
Old members' accounts.....		90.69	36.76			53.93
Due to George Hies.....		149.43	90.26	11.43		70.60
Balance of cash.....	\$61.17		2,308.38	1,950.30	\$419.25	
Due on savings bank account.....	11.09		.83	11.92		
Due from Library Bureau.....	296.27		1,188.85	1,455.02	30.10	
Due on bills and subscriptions.....					1,022.50	
Totals.....	\$368.53	\$1,635.48			\$1,471.85	\$2,020.72
General balance.....	1,266.95				548.87	
	\$1,635.48	\$1,635.48			\$2,020.72	\$2,020.72

OHIO. Publications of the state of Ohio, 1803-1896, with index to the executive documents; comp. by R. P. Hayes. Norwalk, O., 1897. 8°. 71 p.

RHODE ISLAND. Check list of R. I. laws; by J. H. Bongartz. Providence, 1893. 8°. \$1.

TEXAS. Raines, C. W. Conventions and constitutions relating to Texas, and the collation of the laws of the republic and state, all in chronological order. (*In his Bibliography of Texas*, app. no. 1, p. 227-237. Austin, Gammel Book Co., 1896. 8°.)

VERMONT. Bibliography of Vermont; prep. by M. D. Gilman, with additions by others.

Burlington, Free Press Assoc., 1897. 4°. vii, 349 p.

WISCONSIN. [List of publications of the State of Wisconsin, 1853-97; comp. by S. I. Bradley.] Part of Bibliography of Wis. in preparation for publication.

In addition state library catalogs and the reports of the state librarians of the several states furnish information of varying value.

There is at present in course of preparation at the office of *The Publishers' Weekly*, New York, a list of the publications of each state and territory of the Union, from the beginning to date, being a consolidation and extension of the various lists given in the appendixes to the "American catalogue."

TABLE SHOWING CONDITION OF STATE LIBRARIES.

State.	Librarian.	Total vols.	State docs.	Law-books.	Miscellaneous.	Docs. of own state.	Docs. of other states. <sup>1</sup>
Ala.	J. M. Riggs	30,000	Yes	Yes	Yes	All	Yes
Ari.	C. H. Akers	15,000	Yes	Yes	Yes	All	Yes
Ark.	A. C. Hull, <i>ex-off.</i>	60,000	Yes	Yes	Yes	Most	Yes
Cal.	F. L. Coombs	108,000	Yes	Yes	Yes	All	Yes
Col.	Miss H. E. Stevenson, <i>ass't.</i>	12,000	Chiefly	?	?	Many	Yes
Ct.	C. J. Hoadly	12-15,000	Yes	Yes	?	Many	Yes
Del.	T. W. Jefferson	40,000	Yes	Yes	Yes	Most	Yes
Fla.	Sec. of State, <i>ex-off.</i>	12,000	Yes	9,800	No.	Some	Some
Ga.	J. E. Brown	50,000	Yes	Yes	?	Yes	Yes
Ida.	Mary S. Wood	10,000	No	Yes	No	Most	Yes
Ill.	J. A. Rose	33,000	Yes	No	Yes	Most	Yes
Ind.	W. E. Henry	20,000	Yes	Separate dept.	Yes	Most	Yes
Ia.	J. Brigham	61,500	Yes	Yes	Yes	All	Yes
Kan.	Mrs. A. L. Diggs	60,000	?	Yes	?	All	Yes
Ky.	Miss P. H. Hardin	100,000	Yes	Yes	Yes	All	Yes
La.	A. F. Phillips	40,000	Yes	Yes	Yes	All	Yes
Me.	L. D. Carver	47,000	Yes	Yes	Yes	All	Yes
Md.	Mrs. A. B. Jeffers	50,000	Yes	Yes	?	Most	Yes
Mass.	C. B. Tillinghast	100,000	Yes	Yes	Yes	Most	Yes
Mich.	Mrs. M. C. Spencer	95,000	Yes	Yes	Yes	All	Yes
Minn.	C. A. Gilman, <i>St. Law Lib.</i>	28,000	Yes	Yes	?	Most	Yes
Miss.	Miss H. D. Bell	Fill 5 rooms.	Yes	Yes	?	All	Yes
Mo.	Mrs. J. Edwards	30,000	Yes	Chiefly	?	Most	Yes
Mont.	Laura E. Howey	8,000	Yes	Separate dept.	Yes	Most	Yes
Neb.	D. A. Campbell	38,600	Yes	Yes	Yes	All	Yes
Nev.	E. Howell	44,000	Yes	Chiefly	?	Most	Yes
N. H.	A. H. Chase	50,691	Yes	Yes	?	All	Yes
N. J.	*H. C. Buchanan	50,300	Incl. in misc.	20,300	24,100	All	Yes
N. M.	J. Segurd	6,000	Yes	Chiefly	?	Few	Yes
N. Y.	M. Dewey	217,933	Yes	Yes	Chiefly	All	Yes
N. C.	R. A. Cobb	60,000	30,000	Separate lib'y	30,000	Most	Yes
N. Dak.	F. Falley	15,000	Yes	Yes	?	All	Yes
Ohio.	C. B. Galbreath	57,168	Yes	Yes	Chiefly	All	Yes
Okla.	G. H. Dodson	7,000	Yes	Yes	Yes	All	Yes
Or.	J. B. Putnam	23,000	Yes	Chiefly	?	Most	Yes
Pa.	*E. Reed	135,000	Yes	?	Chiefly	All	Yes
R. I.	*J. H. Bongartz, <i>St. Law Lib.</i>	26,000	No	Yes	No	V'y few	No
S. C.	Miss N. Montgomery	60,000	Yes	Yes	Yes	Most	Yes
S. Dak.	P. Lawrence, <i>ass't sec. of st.</i>	?	Yes	Yes	Yes	All	Yes
Tenn.	*Miss Jennie Lauderdale	35,000	Yes	Yes	Yes	All	Yes
Tex.	E. Digges	10,000	Yes	No	Yes	Many	No
Utah.	L. P. Palmer	8,000	No	Yes	No	None	No
Vt.	H. A. Huse	34,000	Yes	Yes	Yes	All	Yes
Va.	W. W. Scott	85,000	Yes	Yes	Yes	Most	Yes
Wash.	H. Bashford	25,000	Yes	Yes	Yes	All	Yes
W. Va.	P. S. Shirley	13,000	Few	Chiefly	No	Most	Yes
Wis.	I. S. Bradley, <i>St. Hist. Soc.</i>	105,000	Yes	Separate lib'y	Yes	All	Yes
Wyo.	J. Slaughter	20,000	Yes	Chiefly	?	All	Yes

<sup>1</sup> To the question, "Does State Library desire to exchange with other states?" every state but Kansas gave an affirmative answer.

\* Succeeded M. R. Hamilton, Jan., 1899.

\* Succeeded Dr. W. H. Egle, Jan., 1899.

\* In Rhode Island the Secretary of State is *ex-officio* state librarian and the state library is incidental; it contains about 5,000 v., mostly state documents. The state has an important law library with separate organization.

\* Succeeded Miss Pauline Jones, Jan., 1899.

## THE PROCEEDINGS.

ATLANTA AND LITHIA SPRINGS, GA., TUESDAY-FRIDAY, MAY 9-12, 1899.

## FIRST SESSION.\*

(KIMBALL HOUSE, TUESDAY MORNING, MAY 9.)

THE meeting was called to order at 10.15 by President LANE, who referred to the fact that the meeting was called to order with the gavel presented to the A. L. A. by its Jamestown hosts of last year. "It bears," he said, "on two gold plates on each side space for the names of 10 presidents of the association, beginning with Mr. Putnam. But it will be more than 10 years before the memory of the hospitality that we received last year at Lake Chautauqua will be forgotten by us."

Mr. LANE then delivered

## THE PRESIDENT'S ADDRESS.

(See p. 1.)

F. M. CRUNDEN. — I would like to make a motion and some remarks upon it, pertaining to one item of the president's address. He referred to one of the most important events in the library world of last year—the appointment of the Librarian of Congress from the ranks of the American Library Association. Now our president himself had a good deal to do with bringing this appointment about—I don't know just what, but he certainly had something to do with it; I am sure it was largely due to the ability and tact with which he managed the affair; and I think it would be proper for this association to put itself on record as appreciating that work. I therefore move that the thanks of the association be tendered to President Lane for the ability, energy, and tact with which he represented the American Library Association in regard to the appointment of the National Librarian.

Secretary CARR temporarily took the chair

pending the consideration of this motion, which was unanimously carried.

HENRY J. CARR made his

## SECRETARY'S REPORT.

Because of the 1899 meeting taking place early in May, the interval since the meeting of 1898 at Lake Chautauqua has been one of barely 10 months. It has also been a period of restriction in expenditures, so far as possible, because of the financial status of the association when its administration came over to the hands of the present officers. Disbursements, ordinary and extraordinary, including the inevitably large cost of the papers and proceedings of 1898, were out of proportion to the income of that year, notwithstanding the considerable addition of new members.

If the conservative restraint exercised since then proves effective in bringing the affairs of the association over to the next administration with a fair working balance after the publication of the Proceedings of 1899, it will be a matter of much gratification to all concerned. If not successful in that respect, then it will be necessary to reduce other and more desirable expenditures to a lesser figure during the next official year; for associations, like individuals, should follow the principle of "pay as you go."

An "A. L. A. handbook" for 1899, including complete member list, was much called for and seemed an essential expense. Prepared and issued early in the year, it comprised 56 pages ( $3\frac{1}{2} \times 5\frac{3}{4}$  inches), costing \$119 for the printing of an edition of 4500 copies. Somewhat over half the edition has now been used, leaving a balance of about 2000 copies for subsequent distribution. With the issue of a small supplement containing notices, lists of officers, committees, new members and changed addresses, etc., that number will probably suffice for the coming year.

Concerning one exceptional event of the past year more than passing notice is merited. The

\*As indicated on the program, the first session of the association was an informal reception, held in the Kimball House parlors, Monday evening; the meetings of the various sections were also included as regular sessions. The sessions as here given cover only the general business sessions of the associations.

offer from the executive committee of the Second International Library Conference (London, 1897), of 25 bound copies of the Transactions of that conference without charge, was received in October, 1898, and accepted by the executive board. (No more than 750 copies were printed, and all but 100 were distributed to members of the conference who paid a fee of one guinea each.) Deeming that the 25 copies would be of most service if placed with libraries in various localities, the executive board directed their distribution to libraries having membership in the A. L. A. that had not otherwise been supplied. Transmission to 25 such libraries was effected through the Smithsonian Bureau of International Exchanges in February, 1899, and it is presumed that all the libraries designated did receive the book, although only nine acknowledged it to the secretary, as requested. Some have given credit to this association, as was proper; others to the Smith-

sonian, or to the International Conference while the majority seem to have ignored the matter entirely.

Other gifts to the A. L. A., coming to the hands of the secretary, have been as follows: From the library of the National Institute, Santiago, Chili, one volume "Ultimos dias coloniales en el Alto-Peru"; and from the New York Public Library (Astor, Lenox, and Tilden foundations) current issues of its monthly bulletin.

A quantity of back-number Proceedings of the A. L. A. (3 of Cincinnati, 1882; 87 of Buffalo, 1883; 32 of Lake George, 1885) were received from the preceding secretary and turned over to the Publishing Section. Long since supposed to be out of print, and not to be obtained from any source, their discovery came in the nature of an agreeable surprise, and will enable some persons to complete their sets of the publications of the association.

GARDNER M. JONES read the

#### TREASURER'S REPORT.

##### RECEIPTS:

Balance on hand July 1, 1898 (Chautauqua conference, p. 114).....		\$766 16	
Fees from annual members:			
From 13 members for 1897			
From 211 members for 1898			
From 425 members for 1899			
649 members at \$2.....		\$1298 00	
Fees from fellows:			
From 1 fellow for 1898			
From 9 fellows for 1899			
10 fellows at \$5.....		50 00	
Fees from library members:			
From 3 libraries for 1898			
From 28 libraries for 1899			
31 libraries at \$5.....		155 00	
			1503 00
Life memberships:			
Theodore W. Koch			
George W. Williams			
Gardner M. Jones			
Fred P. Jordan			
4 life memberships at \$25.....		\$100 00	
Life fellowships:			
Free Library of Philadelphia.....		100 00	
Sale of conference proceedings.....		3 00	
Trustees of the Endowment Fund:			
Contribution in aid of the publication of the proceedings.....		150 00	
Interest on deposit, New England Trust Co.....		2 44	
			1858 44
			<u>\$2624 60</u>

1898.

## PAYMENTS:

July 21.	C. F. Williams, supplement to A. L. A. catalog.....	\$35 10
July 21.	George Bursch, lantern, Chautauqua conference.....	7 50
July 21.	Kent House, telephone, etc., lantern show.....	4 59
July 21.	<i>Publishers' Weekly</i> , advance papers, Chautauqua conference.....	49 26
July 21.	<i>Publishers' Weekly</i> , expressage, postage, etc.....	3 04
July 21.	Helen E. Haines, note-book, etc., for recorder.....	65
Aug. 9.	Frank T. Boland, stenographer, Chautauqua conference, on account.....	50 75
Aug. 9.	Ames & Rollinson, engraving testimonial.....	5 00
Aug. 12.	Journal Printing Co., printing, Chautauqua conference.....	27 35
Aug. 12.	C. F. Williams, printing, Chautauqua conference.....	275 38
Aug. 13.	Frank T. Boland, stenographer, Chautauqua conference, balance.....	118 15
Aug. 19.	Library Bureau, circulars, mailing and postage, Chautauqua conference...	101 67
Sept. 19.	Buffalo Public Library, gas, etc., Chautauqua conference.....	10 25
Sept. 19.	<i>Publishers' Weekly</i> , proceedings, Chautauqua conference, on account.....	400 00
Oct. 7.	Trustees of the Endowment Fund, 5 life memberships.....	125 00
Nov. 16.	C. F. Williams, letterheads for Melvil Dewey, secretary's expenses.....	1 00
Nov. 16.	Salem Commercial School, typewriting membership list for secretary.....	3 00
Dec. 9.	Newcomb & Gauss, stationery for treasurer.....	13 00
1899.		
Feb. 3.	Trustees of the Endowment Fund, life membership....	25 00
Feb. 6.	<i>Publishers' Weekly</i> , proceedings, Chautauqua conference, balance.....	488 69
Feb. 6.	<i>Publishers' Weekly</i> , postage and expressage on proceedings.....	7 21
Mar. 18.	F. H. Gerlock & Co., handbooks.....	119 00
Mar. 18.	F. H. Gerlock & Co., printing, etc., for secretary.....	17 25
Mar. 27.	Trustees of the Endowment fund, life fellowship.....	100 00
April 24.	F. H. Gerlock & Co., printing for secretary.....	22 25
April 24.	Henry J. Carr, expenses Atlanta conference.....	116 17
April 29.	Gardner M. Jones, treasurer's expenses, postage, clerical assistance, etc...	61 91

\$2188 17

Balance on hand April 30, 1899:

Deposit in New England Trust Co., Boston.....	\$21 25
Deposit in Merchant's National Bank, Salem.....	415 18

436 43

\$2624 60

The payments may be classified as follows:

Proceedings, including delivery .....	\$895 90
Stenographer.....	168 90
Secretary and conference expenses :	
Chautauqua conference.....	\$485 04
Atlanta conference.....	277 67
	<u>762 71</u>
Treasurer's expenses.....	74 91
Recorder's expenses.....	65
Supplement to A. L. A. catalog.....	35 10

\$1938 17

The present status of membership (April 30, 1899) is as follows:

Honorary members.....	3
Life fellows.....	3
Life members.....	32
Annual fellows (paid for 1899) .....	10
Annual members (paid for 1899).....	426
Library members (paid for 1899).....	27

501

During the period covered by this report 113

new members have joined the association and six have died.

Respectfully submitted,

GARDNER M. JONES, *Treasurer*.*Necrology.*

I. Hannah Elizabeth Bigelow (A. L. A. no. 1250, 1894), treasurer of the Marlborough (Mass.) Public Library. Born in Berlin, Mass., in 1848; died at Marlborough, May 27, 1898. She was the daughter of Levi Bigelow, and had passed almost her whole life in Marlborough. On the death of her father she assumed entire charge of her property left by him, and always managed her business affairs with ability and success. She was an attendant at the Unitarian church and interested in its welfare. In many public affairs she took a keen interest, especially in an educational direction. She was a trustee of the public library for 15 years, serving for the entire period as treasurer of the board, and took the deepest interest in all matters pertain-

ing to it, contributing freely time, money, and literature in its behalf. Among her gifts to the library was a fund in memory of her father for the purchase of photographs and objects of artistic or historic interest, and in her will she gave \$5000, the income to be used for the purchase of new books.

(*Marlborough Enterprise*, May 28, 1898.)

2. Arthur M. Jellison, (A. L. A. no. 1570, 1897), librarian of the Mechanics' Institute, San Francisco, Cal. Born in Maine in 1854; died in San Francisco July 27, 1898. He went to California with his parents while a child, entered the service of the Mechanics' Institute Library in 1876, and during the 22 years of his connection with it he rendered unceasing and faithful service. No effort was too difficult and no labors too exacting for him; he was literally unsparing of his energies if thereby the interests of his library could be advanced and its patrons benefited. He was an active member of the California Library Association, having acted as its secretary during the initial years of its history, and he filled the position of vice-president at the time of his death.

(*Library Journal*, Sept., 1898.)

3. Dr. William Pepper (A. L. A. no. 1317, 1895), president of the Board of Trustees of the Free Library of Philadelphia. Born August 21, 1843; died July 28, 1898. Dr. Pepper was one of the men of whom it could be said in the fullest and truest sense that he was an "all-round man." He was an eminent physician; he brought out the University of Pennsylvania from the position of a grand school to that of a great university; he held the chair of theory and practice of medicine from 1860-64; he was lecturer on morbid anatomy and, later, on clinical medicine. For 16 years he was provost of the university, and saw the number of students increase more than threefold during his administration. He caused the period of studentship for the medical profession throughout the United States to be increased from one or two years to four years. He created the whole machinery of the great Commercial Museums, whose exhibition is to be held in Philadelphia in the fall of 1899. He induced his uncle, George S. Pepper, to donate a considerable sum for the establishment and maintenance of a free library in Philadelphia. Out of that has grown the present system of a main library with 14 branches which now flourishes in the city. He

labored to procure for it a permanent site and a handsome fire-proof building. Those ends seem to be in very reasonable reach, and of Dr. Pepper in his great library work will have to be said, as has been said of many in times past, "He planted and watered, and others have come to the gathering." No one who worked with him ever worked without being infused with his personal magnetic enthusiasm. To work with Dr. Pepper was to throw yourself headlong into a work, to be full of it till its result was accomplished, and ever to be reaching out for greater and greater development of the business in hand. He was a genuine enthusiast, with marvellous administrative power. Any lieutenant who once obtained his confidence was sure of the staunchest friend, the bravest supporter, and an unfailing counsellor in times of doubt and trouble. His removal by death was a very great loss to Philadelphia and to many important movements.

(*John Thomson*. See "Memorial proceedings in honor of Dr. Pepper," published in the *Proceedings of the American Philosophical Society*.)

4. Jeremiah C. Kittredge (A. L. A. no. 743, 1889), chairman of the Board of Trustees of the Tewksbury (Mass.) Public Library. Born in Boston, Dec. 13, 1847; died in Brookline, Mass., Dec. 19, 1898. He attended the Boston Latin School, Phillips Academy, Andover, and the Chauncey Hall School, Boston. His health failing, he was obliged to give up his studies, and later was placed in charge of the family estate. He devoted himself to literary work and the care of his property, and for some time was engaged in the real estate business. From 1870 to 1880 he lived at the old homestead in Tewksbury. He then took up his residence in Boston, and in 1889 built his home in Brookline, where he lived until his death. He travelled extensively in Europe and in this country. He published a work on the Tewksbury Library, a "library guide," was the author of "Historic footprints on British soil," and wrote a large number of dramas and comedies. By his will he bequeathed the sum of \$5000 to the trustees of the Tewksbury Public Library, which was founded by himself and his brother, George A. Kittredge, the income to be expended for the purchase of books. In case the town decides to erect a library building the testator directs that the sum may be applied to assist in its

erection, provided it is called the Kittredge Library.

(*Boston Transcript*, Dec. 20, 1898; *L. J.*, Jan., 1899.)

5. Leonard Thompson (A. L. A. no. 1307, 1894), trustee of the Woburn (Mass.) Public Library. Born in Woburn, Nov. 2, 1817; died in Woburn, Jan. 21, 1899. He was always prominently identified with the town, and served continuously as library trustee since 1865. In 1877-8 he was a member of the General Court and had also served as town treasurer and as sinking fund commissioner. In 1892 he presented the city with a fund for free lectures, and the following year, on his fiftieth birthday, added \$5000, thus establishing the Burbeen free lecture course, which is given every winter. He was a member of the Massachusetts Library Club, New England Historic Genealogical Society, the Society of Colonial Wars, and other historical associations. He attended the Lake Placid, Cleveland, and Lake Chautauqua conferences of the A. L. A., and the Second International Library Conference in London, 1897. (*Library Journal*, Feb., 1899.)

6. Mrs. Adelgitha Blackwell Lemcke (A. L. A. no. 1293, 1894), wife of Ernst Lemcke, of Lemcke and Buechner, New York City, died at her residence in Orange, N. J., on Feb. 13, 1899, aged 50. She joined the A. L. A. in 1894, and, with her husband, had attended every conference since that date. Her ready wit, unfailing humor, and cordial kindness made her always a delightful companion, and her many friends in the library world will long miss her cheerful presence.

(*Library Journal*, March, 1899.)

NOTE. — In addition to the names listed above six persons who had been members of the A. L. A., although not members at the time of their death, died during the period covered by the necrology. The names are furnished by Mrs. H. J. Carr, to supplement and complete the official record, as follows:

Mrs. Ada North (A. L. A. no. 131, 1878), formerly librarian of Iowa State University, and an active worker in the library cause in that state; died Jan. 8, 1899.

L. H. Boutell (A. L. A. no. 521, 1886), formerly trustee of the Evanston (Ill.) Public Library; died Jan. 16, 1899.

Mrs. Harriet A. Tenney (A. L. A. no. 159, 1878), for many years state librarian of Michigan; died Jan. 20, 1899.

Frederick Beecher Perkins (A. L. A. no. 74, 1877); died Feb. 3, 1899 (*See Library Journal*, Feb., 1899).

George R. Howell (A. L. A. no. 970, 1892), long archivist of N. Y. State Library; died April 5, 1899 (*See Library Journal*, April, 1899).

Edward J. Mason (A. L. A. no. 528, 1886), trustee of Chicago Historical Society; died Dec. 18, 1898.

S: S. GREEN. — I would like to ask the names of the three honorary members mentioned by the treasurer in his report. I think there are one or two other honorary members of the association. I remember distinctly that Charles W. Elliot, president of Harvard College, was made an honorary member at the time of the Boston meeting, and I think there are other honorary members.

It was recommended that information concerning all honorary members of the association be obtained by the treasurer, and their names placed upon the records.

Voted, That the treasurer's report be accepted and referred to the Finance Committee for audit.

R. R. BOWKER. — The mention of the name of Dr. Guild causes me to make a suggestion which, I think, will be received with unanimous approval. Dr. Guild, some of you may not know, is on his death-bed and about to pass away, and I think it will be a graceful and a grateful thing for this association through its secretary to send a telegram of greeting to Dr. Guild. I think he would very much appreciate such action. I therefore move that the secretary be authorized to send the greetings of this body to Dr. Reuben A. Guild at Providence.

Voted.

W: I. FLETCHER presented the

#### REPORT OF THE PUBLISHING SECTION

(See p. 95.)

as printed in advance, without reading.

C. W. ANDREWS. — There is one question I would like to ask, and that is as to the expenses of operation. Is this a report of merely the physical expenses of printing, postage, etc? I am speaking particularly of the printed cards for books, periodicals, etc.

Pres. LANE. — Practically the only running expense is the salary of the assistant secretary. Other expenses, such as rent, heat, or light, we are relieved of, and our only running expenses are the salary of the assistant secretary and stationery. That expense for the year is divided up among the different publications issued in a fair proportion.

W: I. FLETCHER. — Those who have followed the work of the section more closely for these years will know that at present there is no membership in the Publishing Section; it has merely performed the work of a committee of

the association, and that committee is appointed annually.

S: S. GREEN. — Has the committee any plans to suggest for the continuance of its work?

W: I. FLETCHER. — I have some indefinite propositions to provide for an increased expenditure; the Endowment Fund should be increased in order to provide a larger income for this particular division of the association's work; or we should in some way obtain a guaranty from one or more individuals interested in the work of the association that the expense of rent and other expenses shall be met. You will observe that what is immediately required is a guaranty, and that means money, because we must have money in hand to work with.

S: S. GREEN. — How much do you want?

Pres. LANE. — There is needed a guarantee fund of \$1000 to \$1500 for next year's work. We must have something solid back of us, for we ourselves have not the capital to fall back upon. The trustees of the Endowment Fund properly take the position that the principal of their fund cannot be used for this purpose. They are, however, able to aid us from year to year under the direction of the council by the appropriation of a portion of the income of the fund, but we cannot go ahead with additional work unless we may be assured money to back us up, if we should need it. As yet we have not needed it, for we are about \$700 ahead.

S: S. GREEN. — Is your committee prepared to formulate a plan?

W: I. FLETCHER. — The committee had planned that at this meeting there should be a general meeting of the trustees of the Endowment Fund and of the members of the Publishing Section, to see if provision can be made for the section's work.

S: S. GREEN. — I move that there be such a joint meeting of the Endowment Fund trustees and the Publishing Section, and that a report be made, if possible, before the close of this meeting, recommending some plan to be adopted in regard to the increase of the funds for the use of the Publishing Section.\* *Voted.*

\* The proposed meeting was not held because of lack of time, but the Publishing Section, two of its members having offered to guarantee \$300 apiece toward the expenses of the section up to July 1, 1900, on condition that three other persons would do the same, has asked the trustees of the Endowment Fund if they can find the other three guarantors.

C: C. SOULE read the

# REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES OF THE ENDOWMENT FUND.

*To the Secretary of the American Library Association:*

As no report appears to have been received in regard to the Endowment Fund at the last conference, I submit herewith a report covering the period from June 15, 1897, date of last report, to May 2, 1899.

No additional subscriptions have been received during this period, and the only permanent increase of the fund has come from six life memberships and one life fellowship, \$250 in all.

At the Philadelphia conference the council voted, "that the trustees of the Endowment Fund be directed to apply such portion of the interest of the Endowment Fund as may be necessary for that purpose, to the extinguishment of the notes of the Publishing Section."

In accordance with this vote, the notes of the Publishing Section, amounting to \$1000, were cancelled and surrendered to W. C. Lane, treasurer of the section, and interest due on the notes, amounting to \$110.83, was waived. In order to leave this transaction on record, these amounts have been duly entered as receipt and payment on the cash account.

Feb. 2 the treasurer of the Endowment Fund was notified by the secretary of the A. L. A. that the council had voted (by correspondence) as follows: "That from accumulated interest now in the hands of the trustees of the Endowment Fund, \$150 be appropriated towards paying the deficiency on Proceedings of 1898 and \$100, or so much thereof as necessary, to the Publishing Section for its purposes."

Pursuant to these instructions, \$150 was paid to G. M. Jones, treasurer of the A. L. A., Feb. 10. On reckoning the entire interest earned by the fund since its foundation, and subtracting the payments of Oct. 28 to the Publishing Section and Feb. 10 to the A. L. A., it was found that only \$70.97 accrued interest remained to be drawn upon. This amount was accordingly paid to W. C. Lane, treasurer of the Publishing Section, thus exhausting the interest, and leaving on hand Feb. 10, 1899, only the principal of the fund, which, under the constitution, cannot be expended for any pur-



pose. Since then interest to the amount of which can be expended during the coming year \$58.43 has accrued. This interest balance and as the council may direct, an estimated interest income of \$309, in all CHARLES C. SOULE, \$367.43 (more or less), constitute the amount *Treas. A. L. A. Endowment Fund.*

## ENDOWMENT FUND STATEMENT, JUNE 15, 1897-MAY 2, 1899.

		Cash received.	
1897.			
June 15.	Balance on hand.....	\$ 64 88	
July 8.	Repayment of mortgage loan.....	500 00	
	Interest on same to maturity.....	30 00	
Aug. 2.	Interest on mortgage loans.....	68 00	
Oct. 11.	Interest on mortgage loans.....	24 50	
1898.			
Jan. 1.	Interest on deposit.....	23 34	
Jan. 10.	Interest on mortgage loan.....	60 00	
Feb. 1.	Interest on mortgage loan.....	44 00	
Mar. 14.	Repayment of mortgage loan.....	800 00	
	Interest on same to maturity.....	24 00	
Oct. 8.	From G. M. Jones, Treas. A. L. A.: Life membership of C. W. Andrews, Chicago; T. W. Koch, Cornell Univ.; G. W. Williams, Salem; G. M. Jones, Salem; W. L. Glenn, Baltimore; 5 at \$25.....	125 00	
Oct. 12.	Interest on mortgage loans.....	93 00	
Oct. 12.	Interest on deposits.....	10 36	
Oct. 28.	From Publishing Section A. L. A., Notes dated Mar. 4, 1896 (\$250); Dec. 10, 1896 (\$250); May 24, 1897 (\$500): Principal.....	1000 00	
	Interest.....	110 83	
Nov. 26.	Repayment of mortgage loan.....	2000 00	
	Interest on same to Dec. 8, 1898.....	121 65	
	Allowance of mortgagee for legal fees.....	10 00	
1899.			
Feb. 7.	Repayment of mortgage loan.....	400 00	
	Interest on same to maturity.....	14 00	
	Interest on mortgage loan.....	30 00	
	From G. M. Jones, Treas. A. L. A.: Life membership of F. P. Jordan.....	25 00	
Feb. 10.	Interest on deposits.....	11 18	
Mar. 28.	From G. M. Jones, Treas. A. L. A.: Life fellowship of Free Library of Philadelphia.....	100 00	
Apr. 3.	Interest on mortgage loan.....	24 50	
May 2.	Interest on deposits.....	33 93	
			<u>\$5748 17</u>
1898.			
Oct. 6.	Rent of safe deposit box, one year.....	\$ 10 00	
Oct. 28.	Paid to W. C. Lane, Treas. A. L. A. Publishing Section, pursuant to vote of council (see p. 144 of proceedings of Philadelphia Conference, 1897).....	1110 83	
Nov. 26.	George D. Ayres, legal fees on payment of mortgage.....	10 00	
1899.			
Feb. 10.	Paid G. M. Jones, Treas. A. L. A., according to vote of council (as reported in letter Feb. 2, 1899, H. J. Carr, Secretary A. L. A., to C. C. Soule), accumulated interest.....	150 00	
	Paid to W. C. Lane, Treas. Publishing Section, according to same vote, balance of accumulated interest.....	70 97	
Apr. 11.	Rent of safe deposit box to April 15, 1900.....	10 00	
			<u>\$1361 80</u>
Cash in bank May 2, 1899.....		4386 37	<u>\$5748 17</u>

*Assets.*

Mortgage note bearing 7 per cent. interest .....	\$700 00	
Mortgage note bearing 6 per cent. interest .....	1000 00	
Cash in bank awaiting investment.....	4386 37	
		<u>\$6086 37</u>

Of this \$6027 94 represents principal and \$58 43 accumulated interest.

*Estimated income for coming year.*

Interest on hand .....	\$ 58 43	
Interest on mortgages.....	109 00	
Estimated interest in amount awaiting investment.....	200 00	
		<u>\$367 43</u>

Liabilities, none.

Annual expenses, \$10 00 for safe deposit box; other incidental expenses defrayed by trustees.

The following documents were appended :

At the request of Mr. Charles C. Soule, treasurer of the Endowment Fund of the American Library Association, I have examined his accounts and securities and find \$4386.37 on deposit in the International Trust Co. of Boston, with evidences of investments of \$1700 (seventeen hundred dollars) in mortgage loans, kept in the Third National Bank Safe Deposit Co., Boston, in the name of the Trustees of the Endowment Fund of the American Library Association.

JAMES L. WHITNEY,  
*Chairman of Finance Committee*  
*American Library Association.*

*To the Secretary of the A. L. A.:*

DEAR SIR: In connection with the report of our treasurer, we wish to call the attention of the association to the fact that the principal of the Endowment Fund amounts to only \$6027.94, from which we can expect an annual income of not over \$300. In order to do promptly and thoroughly the associated work demanded by the growth of the library interests of the United States, we believe that a fund of \$100,000 and an income of \$5000 per annum is greatly needed, and we suggest that systematic effort be made either to increase our fund to \$100,000 or to obtain annual subscriptions to the amount of \$5000. We have already in our hands the offer of a gentleman noted for his benefactions to educational institutions to contribute to an annual guarantee fund, and believe that further contributions could be obtained, if the need for such expenditure could be clearly set forth by the association.

Respectfully submitted,

JOHN C. HUTCHINS,  
GEORGE W. WILLIAMS,  
CHARLES C. SOULE.

MELVIL DEWEY. — What interest are we getting on that \$4300 for investment?

Mr. SOULE. — Two per cent. on call.

MELVIL DEWEY. — I want to speak of certain methods of the association in regard to this fund. At this time we have this Publishing Section; it is a big organization and is doing a very valuable work, a work that has gone beyond our expectation, and I submit that it is not practical wisdom for us to keep this \$4300 lying in the bank at 2 per cent. because we are afraid to invest that money in our own securities. We will lend it out on some farm perhaps, and we may or may not collect it, but we are afraid to lend it to our Publishing Section with all of its obligations on hand. I think it would be a great deal wiser for us to ask the trustees of this fund at this conference to consent to loan this money to the Publishing Section. We have in that section an important work that we ought to do, and I don't think we ought to be cut off from the use of this fund. We would lend it on some other person's security, why not on our own?

Mr. SOULE. — The constitution prohibits the use of the principal of the Endowment Fund for association purposes. The trustees of the fund from the beginning until now have taken the view that they were at liberty to make a loan to the Publishing Section out of the principal of the fund, but only on exactly the same terms that they would lend to any one else.

The report of the trustees of the Endowment Fund was accepted.

R. R. BOWKER read the

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC DOCUMENTS.

(See p. 100.)

The report was accepted and the resolutions appended thereto were separately put and carried.

C. H. GOULD summarized briefly the

## REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN DOCUMENTS.

The committee decided soon after the Chautauqua conference, to endeavor to compile a finding-list of German public documents. The difficulty of such an undertaking was recognized, but the committee resolved to make the attempt, in the hope of producing something which, however imperfect, might at least be useful.

Owing chiefly to the kind assistance of Mr. Kistner, of Leipzig, a considerable amount of material has been got together. This consists of lists of publications of the Imperial Government, and of the states of Prussia, Bavaria, Saxony, Hesse, and Wurtemberg. But the mere collecting of these lists has consumed an entire year. The committee hopes now, however, to proceed to arrange in bibliographical form such material as has been received.

On behalf of the committee,

C. H. GOULD,  
*Chairman.*

The report was accepted and the committee continued.

President LANE stated that the

## REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON A. L. A. CATALOG SUPPLEMENT

was practically included in the report of the Publishing Section.

In the absence of J. C. DANA, chairman, the report of the

COMMITTEE ON CO-OPERATION WITH N. E. A. was not presented.\*

C: C. SOULE read the

## REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON LIBRARY TRACTS.

The first step toward a plan for a series of publications to be issued by the American Li-

\* Mr. Dana sends a brief report, stating that the joint committee on Relation of Public Libraries to Public Schools, appointed by the N. E. A. at its Washington meeting of 1898, is just sending its report to the printer. This report, making a pamphlet of 50 or 75 pages, will be presented to the N. E. A. at Los Angeles in July. It contains a consideration of the small country library problem in its relation to schools, by F. A. Hutchins; a consideration of the effect of the use of literature in schools, by Prof. Charles McMurry, and another covering somewhat the same ground by Sherman Williams, of New York; Miss M. Louise Jones, of the State Normal School, Emporia, Kansas, makes a report of the things done and the things that should be done by normal schools along the lines of the report; and J. C. Dana sets forth the possibilities and privileges of the librarian in her relations with teachers and pupils.

brary Association, and intended not for experienced librarians but for communities where library interest is to be developed, for the trustees or organizers of new small libraries, or for the inexperienced librarian of such libraries, was made in March, 1898, at a joint meeting of the Pennsylvania Library Club and the New Jersey Library Association, held at Atlantic City, N. J. Mrs. Fairchild, of the New York State Library, introduced the subject, and spoke of the need of library literature for free dissemination (citing the constant inquiries received by many librarians from persons planning or interested in library development in small towns), of the impossibility of answering such questions with the fulness and care desirable, and of the absolute lack of any material that could be freely sent in answer to those questions. The discussion that followed showed how generally the need of such literature was recognized, and a resolution was passed bringing the subject before the executive board of the American Library Association. In November, 1898, the executive board appointed a committee on Library Tracts, with instructions to consider what ground such a series of tracts should cover, and how they might best be written and published, and to report upon the matter at the Atlanta meeting.

Before presenting the plan outlined for these tracts it may be well to indicate the special needs they are intended to meet. Every well-established librarian must to an extent be familiar with these needs or with the expression of them as given in letters from persons who write to ask for information on all phases of library beginnings. The scope of the information desired may best be seen from extracts from some of the letters referred to, those quoted having all been received within recent months.

One writer from a small Indiana town says: "Parties here are considering the building of a library at a total expense of about \$25,000, and want to find a plan that will suit the conditions here. The town has 14,000 people; is a factory town; is not a county seat; its population is composed of iron and glass workers and tradespeople. If you can give us any information as to our needs it will be gratefully received."

Another writer explains that the women of a small western town are trying to arouse interest

in the establishment of a public library, and asks "What is there I can get on public libraries, and also on public libraries as a factor in education? Kindly tell me what there is printed on this subject and where I can procure it." A third letter, this time from Indian Territory, says "We are wanting to start a free reading-room and library in our little town (3000 inhabitants), and hardly know where to go for information," and proceeds to ask such questions as "Can you tell me what library or publishing house or book-store will let me have a box of books monthly or quarterly, we paying for the use of them? What is the price and who is the publisher of the 24 volumes called 'University of Literature'? What is the price of Sonnenschein's 'Best books'"; while from Texas come various letters, one as follows: "We think of agitating in this city of 10,000 people the matter of a public library. With view to getting started right, it has occurred to me that your association might have some literature that would be available and valuable to us. Can you make a suggestion? We are at the very beginning of the subject, and for a while, at least, we should have no support from public funds."

It is not possible for the busy librarian to answer these correspondents in such a way as to meet their needs. There should, then, be at hand for free distribution some material that would carry the first principles of library organization to those by whom it is most needed, and who are not reached by the library periodicals or the present technical manuals. What is needed are elementary statements, simple generalities, and practical suggestions. Whether such a series of publications should be supplemented later by manuals intended for more advanced workers is a subject on which the opinion of the conference is desired, but the plan now outlined is confined to what seems the first and most essential need.

The committee suggests as a beginning for such a series seven subjects, to be treated in individual tracts. Other subjects that naturally come to mind in such connection are reserved for further consideration and later treatment, should the tracts now contemplated prove useful. Of the subjects named it is possible that two might be based upon papers presented at the present conference, to be later revised, edited, and adapted for tract publications.

The subjects suggested are:

1. Why should we have a public library? This should answer the first question asked when the project of library organization is broached in town or village; it should be a simple and convincing statement of the advantages of a library to a city, its place in education, in social and industrial life; and it should be inspirational rather than didactic or statistical.
2. How to start a public library. This should be a logical supplement to no. 1. It should be a simple, practical statement of the first steps necessary in establishing a public library, the need of awakening public interest, importance of town support, methods of transferring to public control already existing association libraries, and suggestions for organization. It might include also a compilation of existing library laws, pointing out desirable features in such legislation.
3. Travelling libraries. This should be intended for use in communities where the travelling library is the most practical form of library work. It should be based upon the fine work already done in Wisconsin and elsewhere, should give information as to commissions and state aid, and should emphasize the travelling library as the nucleus of a free public library.
4. Suggestions for governing boards of libraries, derived from recent library practice. This should cover the administration of the library through its board, giving hints as to the appointment of an effective body of directors, their number and duties, the necessity of keeping libraries out of politics, the advantages of competitive examinations or some civil service safeguard in appointments, the selection of a librarian, his proper duties and powers, etc.
5. Library rooms and buildings. This should not be a general article on library architecture, but rather should define: 1, the best location for such a room or library; 2, what sort of a room will best answer the purpose; 3, how it can be simply shelved and furnished, and how much shelving will answer for 300, 500, or 1000 volumes as the library grows; 4, how small and simple a building will serve for a library, and how much it will cost. It might include also a descriptive summary of a few selected modern library buildings, their cost, style, and merits.
6. Selection and purchase of books. This should be a simple statement of the best me-

diums, lists, etc., available in selecting books for libraries, the principles to be followed in such selection, methods of purchase, ordering, etc.

7. Scope and management of college libraries. The need of this tract is found in the hundreds of small colleges scattered throughout the country in which the library, though perhaps the only potential book centre in the town or county, is entirely neglected, or its possibilities as a general educational influence are ignored. It should be meant for the faculties or trustees of such colleges, and should be intended to awaken a realization of the true function of the college library in aiding and inspiring all education.

Regarding the preparation of the tracts, it is recommended that, should the plan outlined be approved, the committee be authorized to select writers and assign subjects. Manuscripts should be subject to revision, and should be submitted to others familiar with the special subjects treated for suggestions and additions. References to further material on each subject should be appended to each tract, if practicable. It is recommended that the tracts be issued by the A. L. A. Publishing Section, under the editorship of the committee, and that they be distributed upon application to the Publishing Section and the secretary of the A. L. A., who should be supplied with copies for distribution in his discretion. It is recommended that the manufacturing cost (printing, paper, binding, etc.) of such a series of tracts be approved as a proper association expense, with the understanding that not less than two tracts be issued before the next (1899) conference; and that details of size, edition, style, cost, etc., be referred to the committee, in consultation with the executive board and the Publishing Section.

In conclusion, the committee requests that the subject receive full consideration and discussion by the conference; that suggestions or recommendations be freely offered, and that thereport be accepted and the committee continued, with authority to carry out the work, either on the lines suggested or as modified by the judgment of the conference.

CHARLES C. SOULE, }  
MARY W. PLUMMER, } *Committee.*  
HELEN E. HAINES, }

The report was accepted, and Mr. Soule having stated that he would be unable to continue in the chairmanship, it was

*Voted*, That Miss Helen E. Haines and Miss Mary W. Plummer, with another member to be appointed by the president, constitute a committee to carry into effect the report of the committee on Library Tracts.\*

C. W. ANDREWS read the

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON AMERICAN LIBRARY  
EXHIBIT AT THE PARIS EXPOSITION OF 1900.

The committee appointed to consider the question of a library exhibit at the Paris Exposition in 1900 respectfully reports as follows:

In accordance with the scheme of classifications of the exposition, as interpreted by the Commissioner-general of the United States, library methods are included in the Department of Education and Social Economy. Mr. Howard J. Rogers, of the Department of Public Instruction of the State of New York, has been selected as the director of that department, having his headquarters at Albany. His service in actual charge of the exhibit of the New York State Educational Exhibit at Chicago in 1893 gives us the best assurance of his appreciation of the importance of a representative library exhibit, and of his familiarity with its requirements and needs.

That the exhibit should be collective and representative rather than individual — *i.e.*, that the material furnished by a library be distributed so as to illustrate the methods and various points of library management, instead of being kept together as the exhibit of that library — is not only required by the authorities of the exposition and by those in charge of the American exhibit, but is also in accordance with the wishes of nearly every librarian consulted by the committee. Such an exhibit can be prepared best by a single agent, who will collate and co-ordinate the material offered, call upon libraries to furnish desired material which might otherwise be overlooked, etc.

Our most natural choice would be the Library of Congress. As, however, that library is not now in a position to undertake the work, the New York State Library has very generously offered to do so, and to meet the not inconsiderable expense connected therewith, provided it may state that the exhibit has been prepared for the American Library Association by the New York State Library. For several reasons, that

\* Mr. Frank P. Hill was later appointed a member of the committee.

library is especially well fitted to do the work easily and successfully. It is in close touch with the director of the department; it has had the experience of similar work in 1893, and can use the Columbian exhibit as a nucleus for the one at Paris; and it can command the trained assistance of the Library School. The committee feel sure that, with the expected co-operation of the members of the association, the exhibit thus made will be thoroughly representative and exhaustive.

The director of the department desires that the exhibit should represent the American Library Association, and that the initiative should come from us. The committee therefore recommend that the association thank the New York State Library for its offer of assistance, and request that it act as the representative of the association in collecting and preparing an exhibit of American library interests for the Paris Exposition in 1900. They further recommend that a committee of three be appointed by the executive board to examine and approve the plans for the exhibit, and to give such further assistance and advice as may be desired. They suggest that the chairman and at least one other member should be within easy reach of Albany.

The committee are aware that the association has no funds available for the purpose, but they are assured that the leading libraries of the country will do their share in the preparation of the material, and the cost of installation and care will be met by the United States Commission, while, as stated above, the New York State Library will meet the not inconsiderable expense of collection, of collation and of preparation.

The committee further reports with pleasure that there is to be prepared as part of the educational exhibit a series of monographs on the different lines of American educational work, among which will be one on the development of libraries in the United States. It seems desirable that this should be supplemented by a handbook descriptive of the libraries themselves, as suggested by Mr. Teggart, and it is to be hoped that the discussion of that subject may result in the preparation of such a volume.

In view of the shortness of the time available it is desirable that those interested should send in suggestions without waiting for a formal request from the committee to be appointed.

CLEMENT W. ANDREWS, *Chairman.*

The report was accepted and the recommendations contained therein were put and carried.

W: I. FLETCHER presented the

#### REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON TITLE-PAGES TO PERIODICALS.

The committee on address to publishers of periodicals in the interest of better and more uniform practice in the issue and distribution of title-pages and indexes to such publications, beg to report that they have given the matter careful consideration and have consulted with librarians, periodical publishers and bookbinders, and as a result would offer the following as a form for the proposed address to publishers, subject to amendment or alteration by the association:

*Whereas*, There is great variety of practice among the publishers of leading magazines and reviews in the matter of furnishing title-pages, tables of contents, and indexes for their complete volumes, and

*Whereas*, There seems to be an increasing disposition on the part of publishers not to furnish title-pages, etc., unless they are specifically asked for, now be it

*Voted*, That the American Library Association urges upon publishers of periodicals the great importance of the following as points in a good and satisfactory make-up of their volumes:

1. Title-pages, tables of contents, and indexes should be issued with every number of a periodical which completes a volume. Not only is it desirable that libraries and individual purchasers should be able to bind their volumes without the trouble of sending for these necessary additions, but it will prove a serious impairment of the value of the back numbers in later years if complete volumes can only with great difficulty be made up. Many casual purchasers and short-term subscribers might be induced to become regular subscribers and to make up sets, if the matter of binding were brought to their notice by the regular appearance of title-pages and indexes. Special stress is laid by the association on the necessity that they should not be furnished as loose leaves or sections, which practice, followed by some publishers, has led to the loss of many title-pages and to subsequent demands for other copies to replace them, annoying alike to publishers and to librarians.

2. An alphabetical index printed (and paged) at the end of the reading-matter of the last number of a volume, and a half (or quarter) sheet containing the title-page and brief table of contents, easily detachable from (but not loose in) the last part of the same number. In cases where the index, etc., cannot be furnished with the closing number of the volume, they should be furnished with the next ensuing number, sewed

or stitched in so as to be easily detached. The association would lay special stress, however, on the importance of having these matters furnished with the last number of each volume if it can possibly be done.

The association urges publishers to consider these points which are of increasing importance as periodicals in bound form are coming to fill a highly important place in our public libraries. By treating this matter in a rational and satisfactory manner publishers will do much to increase the usefulness and the actual market value of their issues.

Your committee would suggest the continuance of such a committee with instructions that these resolutions, if passed, and in such form as passed, be sent by the committee to publishers of American and English periodicals, with a request for a reply stating the point of view of the publishers in order that any misunderstanding may be removed, and in the hope that by conference and correspondence a final result may be reached which will be mutually satisfactory to all parties.

The committee have found that many librarians and others would like to have the publishers approached by the association with suggestions on other points, such as the best methods to be pursued in arranging advertising matter, inserting plates and assigning pagination, but they have agreed to recommend that for the present the action of the association be confined to the points covered by the vote offered to-day, lest in the effort to do too much, nothing be accomplished. If a committee on this subject be continued (as is suggested above) the committee might be asked to report further action covering these other points at the next meeting of the association.

W. I. FLETCHER,  
THORVALD SOLBERG,  
*Committee.*

The report was accepted; the recommendations submitted were accepted substantially as presented, and referred back to the committee with power to act.

GARDNER M. JONES read the

#### REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON LIBRARY SCHOOLS.

*New York State Library School.*—The New York State Library School has larger quarters, more students (10 seniors and 30 juniors), more men and more college graduates in the classes, and more money to work with than ever be-

fore. During the past year the principle of electives has been introduced into the senior class, and each student is required to give 50 hours of lecture or theoretic work and 150 hours of practice or laboratory work to his elective, thus enabling him to specialize on the particular subject or department in which he is most interested. The children's room, opened on April 1 as a part of the state library, furnishes a laboratory for the study of the children's department. Special attention is given to library architecture, Mr. Eastman having made a large collection of slides for evening lectures on this subject. Not only have the entrance requirements been made more stringent, but only the very best students are allowed to take the second year's course. Students from other schools who reach the required standard are allowed to take the second year's course at the Albany school. The connection with the university of the state and the ample funds at command enable the director to put much of the material of instruction in print, and the whole library profession is greatly indebted to Mr. Dewey for the many aids to their work, originally prepared for the use of the school, but of equal value in all libraries. Many of the bibliographies prepared by students as part of their graduation work and printed in the bulletin of the state library would be creditable to experienced members of the profession. The summer school now occupies six weeks instead of five, and the enlarged quarters allow the school to begin in May and be carried on at the same time as the regular classes, thereby securing the services of the regular faculty.

GARDNER M. JONES.

*Pratt Institute Library School.*—The principal change in the curriculum of the first-year class was the abandonment of the courses in Literature and English, as they seemed no longer necessary in view of the increased fullness and rigidity of the entrance examinations, and the filling of the vacancy with a course in contemporary fiction. It had been found that whereas the students were quite familiar with standard English and American authors, their knowledge of the authors who are really most read, who are now engaged in writing, and of the foreign authors now being translated, was not as wide as it should be. 75 authors were studied, most of whom were unfamiliar to the class, and the general opinion was that the

course was a success. More attention than heretofore was paid to government documents in the cataloging class, and the various indexes, check-lists, etc., were used until the students were quite familiar with them.

The only addition to the historical work of the second-year class was the course in Latin palæography, given at Columbian University by Dr. J. C. Egbert. 27 lectures, covering more than two terms' work, were given, and the equivalent of one day a week was spent in working on facsimiles in the Columbia collection. The examination is just over, and the marking of the papers by Dr. Egbert is now going on. A commission has been given to an American residing in Rome to supply the library with some examples of early printed books and stray leaves of mss. for the use of the students of the course. One of the mss. received was used in the late examination.

Statistics of salaries, hours and vacations have lately been collected from the graduates of the school, and a report of the averages shown will soon be published.

The working out of the new next year's course for the training of children's librarians is now in progress.

MARY W. PLUMMER, *Director*.

*Drexel Institute Library School.*—At the beginning of the school year the library school took possession of its new class-room which was fitted up especially for its use. This year's class has therefore had the advantage of a quiet room in which to study, and the improvement is shown in the good work of the students. 20 students, coming from 12 states, were enrolled at the beginning of the year.

The usual course of study has been followed. It includes lectures on library science and cataloging, the study of English and American authors of the 19th century, with special reference to bibliographical and critical features, and lectures on the history of books and printing. The number of lectures on the history of books and printing, given by the president of the institute, was increased, more time being given to the subject. The course of study has been supplemented by visits to the leading libraries of Philadelphia. The members of the school attended the meetings of the tri-state conference held at Atlantic City in March.

During the second term the students classi-

fied, cataloged, and shelf-listed a special collection of 1500 volumes presented to the institute. The books included many volumes in foreign languages and a number of examples of incunabula and early printing, which gave the class an opportunity of applying the knowledge of these subjects which they had gained from the lectures.

The demand for trained catalogers has been larger than ever before. It has been impossible to supply from our graduates or former students the number of workers needed. The interest in the librarian's profession, especially among women, is evidenced by the number of inquiries regarding the course.

A contribution to librarian's aids and guides which has just been published was compiled by Helen Marot, a graduate of the class of 1895. It is entitled, "Handbook of labor literature," and is a classified annotated bibliography of the subject.

ALICE B. KROEGER, *Director*.

*University of Illinois State Library School.*—Most of the facts regarding the library school during the past year have been noted in the *Library Journal* from month to month, and the more important ones have been elaborated for the Co-operation Committee's report at this meeting.

The school has furnished one travelling library for Champaign county and is taking charge of others which are following. The senior class has entire charge of the Urbana Public Library every afternoon from 3 to 6 to gain public library experience. The seniors have had a course in subject bibliography throughout the year by different professors in the university. Each member of the school is required to write briefs of 10 new books each month and one long book review each term. The college year will hereafter be upon the semester instead of the three-term plan, which will modify the work somewhat in detail, but will be more satisfactory.

KATHARINE L. SHARP, *Director*.

President LANE announced the appointment of the Committee on Resolutions, as follows: Frederick M. Crunden, Thomas L. Montgomery, Miss E. C. Doren.

#### ELECTION OF ANDREW CARNEGIE.

President LANE.—The executive board this morning nominated Mr. Andrew Carnegie to be



an honorary member of the American Library Association. That nomination is now presented to the association for action.

On motion, the nomination was put to a rising vote, and unanimously carried amid applause.

R. R. BOWKER. — As we are meeting in Atlanta, and as Mr. Carnegie will have reached Scotland about this time, I think it would be a pleasant thing to send greetings to Mr. Carnegie with the announcement of this vote.

*Voted.*

#### PLACE OF NEXT MEETING.

On motion of Mr. CARR, it was *Voted*, That a committee of five be appointed to receive, consider, and report on invitations for the next meeting of the association.

The president named as this committee J. L. Whitney, E. H. Anderson, Miss C. M. Hewins, Miss K. L. Sharp, C. W. Andrews.

Adjournment was taken at 12.40.

### SECOND SESSION.

(GRAND OPERA HOUSE, TUESDAY EVENING,  
MAY 9.)

#### THE PUBLIC MEETING.

The meeting was opened at 8.30 by T. H. MARTIN, chairman of the local committee, who, after a few words of welcome, introduced Eugene M. Mitchell, president of the Young Men's Library Association.

Mr. MITCHELL, on behalf of the Young Men's Library Association, delivered to the mayor a deed conveying to the city of Atlanta the entire property, real and personal, including vested funds, of the Young Men's Library Association, to be merged into the Carnegie Library of Atlanta. In presenting the deed he spoke briefly of the history of the Atlanta library and the events leading to and succeeding Mr. Carnegie's gift. The deed, he said, conveyed real estate valued at \$50,000; books, pictures, etc., valued at \$35,000; and invested funds, mortgages, etc., valued at \$11,500. The first definite steps toward the present library movement in Atlanta dated from about a year ago, when Mr. Walter M. Kelley, the Atlanta agent of the Carnegie Steel Co., was elected a member of the board of directors of the Young Men's Library Association. That gave Mr. Kelley an opportunity to work toward the accomplishment of an idea he had long cherished, the establishment of a free library in Atlanta. He wrote to Mr. Car-

negie, and as a result Mr. Carnegie offered to give \$100,000 to the city of Atlanta if the city would furnish the site and contribute \$5000 per annum to maintain the library. The city immediately accepted the proposition, and as soon as the Young Men's Library Association heard of it that association, through its board of directors, appointed a committee to confer with the council and see if its property could not be merged with the Carnegie donation. That committee conferred with the council and made to them a proposition, the main feature of which was that the Library Association should elect at least six of the 12 directors, and that if the city of Atlanta should refuse or fail at any time to give the \$5000 required per annum, the property, in that event, should revert to the Young Men's Library Association for free public library purpose forever. A meeting of the Young Men's Library Association was then called, and, for a great wonder, the members of that association unanimously passed a resolution accepting this proposition, and resolving to donate all their property, real and personal, to the city of Atlanta.

In conclusion, Mr. Mitchell said that the mayor in his inaugural address stated that it would be one of the aims of his administration to establish a free public circulating library in Atlanta, and that this pledge had doubtless had a great influence in obtaining the donation of the property. He added, addressing the mayor: "Further would I say, sir, that the honors of this world may perish, and political offices may be forgotten, but it will be forever remembered as a monument to your administration that you helped to create the free public circulating library of the city of Atlanta."

The deed was received by Mayor WOODWARD, who replied: In accepting this magnificent gift from the Young Men's Library Association, I do so with great pleasure tinged with regret. It is a pleasure to know that this property is merged in a free public circulating library, for its benefits will not be circumscribed. It is a regret to feel that the Young Men's Library Association will possibly pass away. Those that have been engaged in its upbuilding will live to help carry this larger work along, but the work will be done under another name. I can see, too, in the gift of this deed, something that it has taken more than 30 years

to bring about. Men whose hair is now turning gray have spent the better part of their lives in building up this library, and to them I think is due more lasting gratitude than is owed even to the great gift of Mr. Carnegie. Atlanta appreciates that gift; it appreciates it because it comes from a good heart. But it also appreciates the gift of this library, built by the honest nickels and dimes that have been contributed and worked for by the young men of Atlanta; this is something that the people of Atlanta feel grateful for and will never forget.

Mr. Martia then introduced JOHN TEMPLE GRAVES, of Atlanta, who delivered the formal address of welcome. He said in part: I am here to add the welcome of the lip to the assurance which you will have from the heart and the hand of Atlanta.

I speak here for the chairman of the local committee of reception. I speak for the board of directors of the Young Men's Library. I speak for the brilliant and charming librarian. I speak for the city government, and the whole body of the citizens of Atlanta with plenary rights of expansion, and the general instruction that I cannot say too much.

The audience, whose presence is a better welcome than my words, is made up by special selection from the women's clubs of Atlanta, from the various study clubs, and from the great list of the Atlanta Lecture Association — all pillars and props, benefactors and beneficiaries of our local library. These indeed are our walls of culture, and every man's a brick.

Ladies and gentlemen of the American Library Association, we know who you are better than you know who we are. It has been duly and deeply impressed on our minds that it is no ordinary body of men and women whom we front to-night. The dignity, the importance, and the peculiar distinction of the American Library Association is thoroughly comprehended in Atlanta. The keepers of the house of literature, the strong men of books, and they that sit in the windows of culture, are welcome.

If the distinguished appearance of the body did not proclaim its importance we should safely fashion our respect upon your exceptional walk and conversation.

We mingle much reverence with great cordiality, and we are prepared to say without

strain that this southern city of conventions, rich in golden memories of great assemblies, has never gathered within its gates a representative body which enshrines a nobler average of brains, of culture, and of high responsibility.

I do not need to tell this brilliant company that the city for which I speak is a notable and wonderful city. Its life, its growth, its vitality, its individual mentality, written in a hundred historic enterprises, and crystallizing a progressive and representative public opinion, have long since impressed the republic and the world. You will, I am sure, pardon me for the swelling satisfaction with which I record our local and absolutely impartial judgment, that Atlanta is the brightest and most intellectual city of its size in the republic. This must be true. Great lecturers have told us so. Great conventions have said so. Our politicians invariably say so. The stranger within our gates has ever flattered us with the fine assurance, and if you, in your wisdom, discover a flaw in this flattering proposition we ask you in simple kindness to keep it loyally and permanently to yourselves.

In the formative and pioneer days of Atlanta all things social, political, and industrial revolved about the library. The freshness and glow of Henry Grady's young enthusiasm were spent in its directory. The most brilliant articles that have adorned the columns of our local newspapers were written of this young library and of the men who made it, and in the stirring history of this historic town it is the simple truth to say that the packhorse of materialism has always followed solidly and humbly behind this thoroughbred of culture.

Up to this period our equipment has been comparatively scant. We have been too poor and too busy in the material rebuilding of the south to rival the splendid expenditures of the older and richer sections that did not suffer by the ravages of war.

But we have used what we had with diligence and increasing zeal. In the progressive influence of this Young Men's Library, every year has marked a distinct and steady development in the quantity and quality of reading. The library has been the refuge and resort of the student, the thinker, the literary and professional worker of both sexes. The chairs have never been empty, and the interest has never

waned. Study clubs have grown out of it. Women's clubs have been prospered by it. The greatest lecture association in the south has been nourished by it. Within the administration of the present librarian the percentage of fiction read has decreased 25 per cent. in favor of the more solid form of literature.

There are a thousand things which we hope to learn from this convention, but the one thing which we have already learned is love of our library and loyalty to books; and if your keen eyes will look closely you will soon discover that the new idol of our people is "the girl in the pink shirt waist," Atlanta's Henry Grady in petticoats—the leader and guardian of the library, who presides in this department, captures conventions by her eloquence and tact, and is far and away the most popular citizen of either sex in Atlanta.

President LANE.—I wish I could find words adequately to express the gratitude which we feel for the warm welcome which you have given us, for the kind way in which you have welcomed us, and for the welcome the mayor has spoken; for the very hospitable welcome which all of the people of Atlanta whom we have met, and many others whom we hope to meet, have given us. I think it has never been the good fortune of the American Library Association before to be present in a city where such interesting library functions were discussed, or to witness a ceremony, such as we have witnessed this evening, by which the generosity of a capitalist and the public spirit of a society have united to insure forever a splendid library in Atlanta. I think, too, that the American Library Association has never been honored by so large a company from the city in which it has met. We have met all over the land, but never has so large and enthusiastic a company come to one of our sessions, and that is good evidence of the correctness and exactness of what you have said in regard to the character of the city of Atlanta. We shall go home fully convinced that you are entirely right.

We have come to you from all over the country—from Maine, California, and, I suppose, from every state in the Union. We are all immensely interested in libraries. It is our work. We believe that the library has a mission, and we never want to leave a city until every one in it is as thoroughly interested as ourselves. For that reason we are glad that you have come

here to-night that we may have a chance, through some of our members, to speak to you in regard to some of the matters in which we are interested. It is not my object to do this—it can be done much more efficiently by others—and I shall have the pleasure of introducing to you one who has done more than any man in America to stir interest in library achievement and to direct its course—Melvil Dewey, of the State Library of New York.

Mr. DEWEY spoke on

#### WHAT A LIBRARY SHOULD BE AND WHAT IT CAN DO.

Atlanta has been known long in this country as a southern city that believes supremely that education pays, and as the revelation has come late in this century of what the library is or should be, and what the library can do, on this line I will say a few words to you to-night.

We have had an illustration in the recent war with Spain that education pays, in showing what it means to have the man trained who is behind the guns. We have in Mr. Carnegie's work, whose name has been mentioned here in his competition with the rest of the world, an illustration of another peculiar American feature that American education pays in dollars and cents; but the part the library has in a system of public education is a more recent conception. It took a thousand years to develop our educational system from the university down; first the university as the beginning of all education, then the colleges to prepare for the universities; then the academies and common schools to prepare for the colleges. But it is only in our own generation that we have come to understand that we must begin with the kindergarten and end in our libraries.

I am pleased to-night to know that the Young Men's Association has done this generous work, and that Atlanta is going to pay from the taxes the money for its library. It would be no advantage to this city if your schools were provided for you without charge to the people. Those who study the question from the low plane of dollars and cents, without regard to the higher things in life, have learned that no investment pays so well as investment in education. In many a community men are giving liberally to schools, and are beginning to give liberally to libraries, and they do it because they know it makes everything more valuable—it makes their business more prosperous.

The library is going through the same process the public school went through when Henry Barnard, of Connecticut, visited 27 different states, and spoke before them to urge upon them the need of a system of public education, to provide guidance for the children.

It is true that educated parents are more likely to have their children highly educated, but there is no question whatever that the great majority of the men and women who are to shape the future of this country will be born in the humblest homes, and we thus come back to the problem of the general education of all the people as the best possible advancement and the chiefest defence of the nation. It is the concern of the state because it is the duty of the state, because it pays, and because the state does not dare any longer to neglect it. Therefore I call your attention to the fact that we are repeating in libraries exactly the process gone through with the schools. There are few who doubt the wisdom of donating money to support the free library, and when the history of this time is written it will be marked as the history of free libraries.

Why is it that the people are taxing themselves, erecting beautiful buildings, buying books, paying salaries, printing catalogs, incurring all these expenses, paying out an amount of money that a short time ago would have been thought only a dream? It is a recognition of the necessity and importance of the public library. We understand that it is a good thing, and an essential part of our national life.

At the end of the century a broad conception of the work of the schools is simply this—to teach children to think accurately, with strength, and with speed. If it is in the school that they get their start, then where do they get their education? Tell me from your own experience, was it from the school that you got most of your ideas? We had an experiment some time ago, when the teachers of New York made an elaborate investigation as to the teaching of boys and girls. The thing that influenced those boys and girls most was the books they read. What, after all, is the supreme end of education? I state that we should teach them to think with accuracy and with speed, but I doubt if there is any one who denies that the supreme necessity is the building of character. That is what is winning in the peaceful conflicts of commerce. If you care to analyze how character

is built, follow it back briefly. Character comes from habits, and habits from actions repeated, and actions from a motive, and a motive from reflection. What makes me reflect? What makes you reflect? What is the cause? Isn't it something that you have read in a book, a magazine, or a paper? So the genealogy is this: reading begets reflection, reflection begets motive, motive begets action, and action begets habit, and habit begets that supreme thing—character. So we have come to recognize that if we are to accomplish the chief end that is before the people, we must strive to control the reading for others.

Reading sometimes carries downhill, as it often carries upward, and there is no way that we can reach the people except through the free library and with proper help from the people.

What Atlanta wants to do with her citizens is not to train privates, but to train officers. If you go out on the streets you can find a thousand men to do the work of a laborer, where you can find only a few to do the work that will demand five or ten thousand dollars. The world is looking for that last class of men. It is the highest salaried man that is the hardest to find. If you would buy a machine, there enters into it the material that is in it; the process of manufacture throughout which has transformed it, and then its approved fitness for performing its functions. It is the same way with a man—the native material that is manufactured; then comes the experience which proves the fitness for his work; and you pay the salary for these things.

Thomas Edison and other great men have said that their whole lives were governed from reading a single book. So the province of the library is to amuse, to inform and inspire. We have the old proverbs, "As free as air," "As free as water"; but the new one that is to inspire the race is, "As free as knowledge." The people of this state cannot afford to have any boy in Georgia who is anxious to know more, to make his life more valuable, who wants inspiration and is ready to read, and not furnish to him what he seeks. Education is the chief concern of the American people, and the states that have done most for education have been the most prosperous.

It is the concern of the richest as to what should be done for the poorest; you should provide free schools and free libraries, or the

failure to do so will react on your own lives. If you say that this ideal is too high, that the library has important functions, but it does not take its place as the equal of the schools, it is because you have not studied this question in all its details. When you do, you will be forced to the conclusion that we must recognize education hereafter. If you say that this is the inspiration of a dreamer, remember that it is the devotion of noble minds that never falters, but endures and waits for all it can find, and what it cannot find, creates.

F. A. HUTCHINS spoke on

#### TRAVELLING LIBRARIES.\*

Every patriotic citizen feels a thrill of hope and pride as he watches the establishment of great public libraries in the great cities of the United States. Magnificent buildings are being erected to house great collections of books for the use of the residents of the great cities; men noted for business sagacity and for patriotism are giving not only large sums of money, but are giving time and their strength to the development of these libraries; intelligent and skilled librarians are using every effort in their power not only to make vast collections of books, and to make them useful to the students, but to win people to come to their libraries, and to use them.

Out through the cities these forces are feeling day and night for the desolate and destitute boys to bring them within the power and influence of books. Through these children they are sending to the homes the great books which make boys and girls, men and women, better. These magnificent buildings, these great collections of books, this great enthusiasm and service seem for years to have been given to the people of the cities; but what of the boys and girls who live in the sod houses on the prairies of the West? Who has thought of the boys and girls and the men and women in the country districts of the Cumberland? Who has thought of the people living in the lumber camps of Maine and Minnesota? Who has thought of the little hamlets on the railways where the boys spend their time in loafing? Who thought to make this great collection of books useful to our friends, our brothers and sisters who live beyond these great influences and centres of culture?

The problem has been stirring thoughtful people for months, and it is a difficult one to solve.

We cannot bring these people to the great libraries. We cannot give them these great collections of books. How shall we give them books that will help them? How shall we put their reading under the control of people who know the books that will profit and cheer and help them?

Seven years ago Mr. Dewey in the state of New York found the answer. On the 8th of February, 1893, he sent out the first travelling library to show the people beyond the influence of the great libraries the usefulness and helpfulness of books. What a wonderful idea it was! Why has it not been done before? The idea was so winning, and it appealed so strongly to the people, that in May, 1898, instead of one travelling library in the United States with a hundred books, there were 1650 travelling libraries, with 73,000 volumes. To-day in the United States there are nearly 2500 travelling libraries, with over 110,000 volumes, helping these people in the country districts; and it is not only in the United States that these libraries are helping the people in the outlying districts. In New Zealand, in British Columbia, in Ontario there are travelling libraries. Surely there must be something wonderfully winning and wonderfully attractive in the benevolent thought that has taken to itself the wings of morning and flown to the uttermost parts of the earth. Why is it that this thought appeals so to people? Why is it that the women's clubs are sending out these libraries? Why is it that normal schools are sending them out to communities; or why is it that the women of New Jersey are sending them to the life-saving stations? Why is it that everywhere when the people learn of the usefulness of the work they are anxious to send these travelling libraries to their neighbors and their friends?

When the libraries first went out—those in the state of New York—they were purchased and arranged with the money appropriated by the state. Two years later the legislatures of Iowa and of Michigan appropriated large sums for travelling libraries within the borders of those states. A few other states have done the same, and recently Minnesota and Kansas and Indiana have given the means for these libraries. But in most of the states it has been impos-

\* Abstract.

sible, as yet, to secure such support, and it has remained for private individuals, for normal schools and for women's clubs to send out libraries in most of the states, so that I may say now that the travelling libraries are already in existence in 32 states of the Union, and in 25 of them they are maintained by private parties.

C. C. SOULE followed with an exhibit of

#### LANTERN SLIDES OF LIBRARY BUILDINGS,

which was unfortunately curtailed owing to the lateness of the hour.

The slides were selected with the intent to lead the spectators through the various phases of library architecture and to qualify them in the half hour at their disposal to be useful members of building committees for future Georgia libraries. Library architecture was noted as dating from "the library era, 1850," but types of antiquated library buildings were illustrated and their characteristics defined.

The slides shown included, as types of historical interest, the Library of the University of Leyden (16th or 17th century), with floor-cases and windows starting above the cases; the Vatican Library, Rome, showing cases and books subordinated to floor ornament; the Manchester (Eng.) Public Library, issue desk and reading-room, showing high wall shelving and ladders; and the Loganian Library of Philadelphia, the earliest American library building, dating from 1743 and long ago demolished.

A view of the interior of the Peabody Institute was shown, illustrating the "conventional plan" of 1850 to 1870, with its galleries and alcoves; while at the other end of the scale was shown a Wisconsin travelling library, in the interior of a small neighborhood store with the small box of books on a table.

Types of libraries for small towns were the Pequot Library, Southport, Ct., and the Public Library of New London, Ct.

The large and busy city library was illustrated by views of the Philadelphia Free Library and its branches, showing work rooms and crowded reading and delivery rooms.

The New York Mercantile Library was shown as illustrating the plan of putting a library on the top floor of a business building—a good plan for a proprietary library, which thus derived revenue from rents of floors below.

New or recent library buildings were illus-

trated by views of the Pawtucket Public Library plans, showing a simple and effective exterior, and an interior, including children's room at one side and reading-room on the other, with administration room next the open-shelf alcove room, to be fitted like a private or home library; the Pratt Institute Free Library, the Providence Public Library and its long stack, the Newark building with its detached stacks and alcoved reading-rooms, and the Prendergast Library at Jamestown.

Other views included the Newberry Library, representing the "Poole plan"; the New York State Library and the library school room; the New York Public Library, exterior and interior; the Chicago Public Library; the Boston Public Library; the Library of Congress; and the reading-room of the British Museum.

At 10.30 p.m. the session adjourned, and a reception was enjoyed at the club-house of the Capital City Club.

#### THIRD SESSION.

(KIMBALL HOUSE, WEDNESDAY MORNING,  
MAY 10.)

The meeting was called to order by President LANE at 10.05 a.m.

JOHN VANCE CHENEY spoke briefly of

#### THE BLUE-PRINT PROCESS FOR PRINTING CATALOGS

devised by A. J. Rudolph, of the Newberry Library, now in experimental use at that library, and exhibited sample pages of the blue-print catalog begun by Mr. Rudolph.\*

F. M. CRUNDEN, chairman, read the draft submitted by the

#### COMMITTEE ON REVISION OF A. L. A. CONSTITUTION†

with the later suggestions and additions made by the committee and others. It was *Voted*, That the constitution as revised be printed for the use of the members of the association in the discussion to follow later. It was also *Voted*, That the subject be referred back to the committee for the purpose of holding a special session to hear suggestions, and that the commit-

\* For an account of this enterprise see "The blue-print process for printing catalogs," by A. J. Rudolph, *Library Journal*, March, 1899, p. 102.

† This draft was printed in full in *Library Journal*, April, 1899, p. 154.

tee report back to the general session on Thursday morning. It was announced that the committee would hold the special hearing at nine o'clock on Thursday morning.

J. L. WHITNEY presented the report of the

#### FINANCE AND AUDITING COMMITTEE.

The undersigned, members of the Finance Committee, have examined the accounts of the treasurer, during the period covered by his report, and find them properly kept and vouched for.

JAMES L. WHITNEY,  
GEO. T. LITTLE.

We have examined the accounts of the Publishing Section of the American Library Association, William C. Lane, treasurer, from Jan. 1, 1898, through Dec. 31, 1898, and find them correctly kept with vouchers for all payments.

JAMES L. WHITNEY,  
GEO. T. LITTLE.

The regular program, which continued the topics presented at the previous evening's session, was opened by S: S. GREEN, with a paper on

#### HOW TO ENCOURAGE THE FOUNDATION OF LIBRARIES IN SMALL TOWNS.

(See p. 14.)

W. R. WEBB. — Many small libraries will reach out to a larger population than one huge library in a great city. This is a matter of extreme importance, especially to those of us who live in the south, as our population is widely scattered and chiefly rural. It may not be widely known, but the country boy has more of the elements for meeting the responsibilities of life, in contact, as he is, with nature, the best kindergarten in the world, if he is not robbed of his birthright by having his home and his community deprived of the best literature. It seems to me that travelling libraries ought to take deep root with us in the south; we ought to interest ourselves in getting up small libraries and in exchanging those libraries frequently, sending them around through the community and through a great many communities. If you put them at a private house, I suggest that a family carries with it the greatest charm, and the library ought to be in the hands of a young lady popular in the community, one who has had especial educational opportunities, and a tender feeling for those who have been unfortunate, and who will make

her home attractive and bring the children to her.

I have spent my lifetime in building up libraries in the country. From individual effort, without being backed by any church or any organization, I have succeeded in putting into communities 15 or 20 libraries, one of them of \$150 worth of books, two of them of \$200 worth of books, and 10 of them of \$10 worth of books. I have put a library of \$6 worth of books in one community that has given me the greatest satisfaction, where people lived in log cabins, with a log church, and learned to read in the public schools; the interest they have manifested in good literature is shown by the marked development of those who took such interest. And from these small beginnings they write me that at the end of a certain period they had accumulated a fund sufficient to almost double the number of books in their possession, and asked me to suggest books for them to buy. If you will take the country boy, who has never walked on a carpet in his life, and put him in contact with the best literature, there is absolutely no limit to his possibilities.

Miss L. E. STEARNS read a paper on

#### HOW TO ORGANIZE LIBRARY COMMISSIONS AND MAKE STATE AID EFFECTIVE.

(See p. 16.)

F. A. HUTCHINS spoke on

#### HOW TO START TRAVELLING LIBRARIES.

I wish to speak especially to the librarians and trustees of small libraries — to those who have not the means to establish large and costly systems of travelling libraries. Any small library may be made the centre for useful work among the farmers and the residents of the hamlets in its vicinity if the librarian can secure a few good travelling libraries and keep them at work.

Travelling libraries for rural communities are primarily intended to help untrained readers who have no librarian as a leader and instructor in their reading. The books of the libraries must, therefore, be such as interest the people to whom they are sent. They must be interesting, popular books. A few old books gathered from unused family libraries will kill any enthusiasm for books which they find in an out-of-the-way community. Intelligent people will often read uninteresting volumes rather than be

entirely idle, but people who have read little must be taught by means of the most popular of the good books. The best of the children's books are always the most useful and popular.

A travelling library, to be successful, must be in charge of some intelligent person who will carefully attend to all the details of its management. The work requires time, patience, intelligence, and enthusiasm. A library in a village or small city is an admirable centre for the rural communities near it, if the librarian is interested in the work. Such a local travelling library system gives its superintendent an opportunity to meet the officers and patrons of the travelling library stations and to inspire them by personal contact. Under such circumstances the persons in charge of the outlying library stations and their friends may sometimes be gathered in "library meetings," and I have seen a few such meetings which were dominated by the "library spirit" as completely as the best of the meetings of trained librarians.

While good books and a good superintendent are essential to the success of any travelling library system, it is nearly as important that the men and women in charge of the outlying stations should be kindly and earnest. The task of a woman who opens her house to loan books to all comers, even in a rural neighborhood, is not in all respects a pleasant one; and if she is not animated by the best of motives she may easily make her home uncomfortable to all but a favored few. It is important, then, to use care in selecting the homes or business places where the travelling libraries are to be stationed. If it is possible the superintendent of the libraries should visit the communities to which the books are to be sent, and should select the librarians and then keep in constant touch with them.

A good leader in a travelling library system will find good helpers, but unless a travelling library system can be built up by good leaders, who will give it careful attention, and unless the books are good, the system will fail. The travelling library cause to-day stands in danger of injury from people who have a fussy enthusiasm and hope to win honor and do good with a few discarded books.

I have here a small box that will hold but 15 or 18 volumes. It is a sample of a case used for small travelling libraries. It has a handle on top, and on one side may be dropped so that

the whole can be used as a bookcase. In one small city in Wisconsin such cases are filled with books, and a farmer who lives near may take a box and books for eight or ten weeks, if he will make it a library for only a few neighbors. These very small libraries are serving a useful purpose because some good families who will not open their houses to all comers will take them to accommodate a few friends.

In my own state we send out large numbers of magazines, illustrated papers, and children's periodicals with our libraries, and we find that in many of the most needy communities the periodicals are more sought for and seemingly do more good, at first, than the books. We bind the *Youth's Companions*, and find that in many homes where there have been no papers or books that parents and children learn to read more easily by means of the simple stories of this periodical. Among the tired housewives on the farms the illustrated papers and the *Ladies' Home Journal* are very popular. At the small railway stations the habitual loafers seem to be more attracted by *Munsey's Magazine* than by any other.

S: S. GREEN.—Would you not prefer *McClure* to *Munsey*?

F. A. HUTCHINS.—I should prefer many other magazines to *Munsey*, but it is a fact that the pictures of *Munsey* attract a certain class of people, especially the idlers, whom we wish to get hold of, and we have found that after they have become interested in the pictures that they are gradually led by them to read other and better literature.

We have interested the school children in helping us to gather copies of the children's periodicals and illustrated papers, and this has been the means of interesting them in our work and training them to be public spirited. We have had the help of thousands of children from well-to-do families, and we feel that the work is doing them good and training them to be better citizens. I would say to those who contemplate starting travelling libraries: "Interest your neighbors and your neighbors' children in your work, and give them plenty of chances to help you and to sympathize with you."

President LANE.—If Mrs. Heard is with us this morning, I wish she would tell us about the work of the Seaboard Air Line in this direction.

Mrs. E. B. HEARD.—You must not embar-



rass me by paying too much attention to what I am going to say. Sometimes the very noise of my own voice frightens me. The work that is being done by the Seaboard Air Line is only about nine months old. Before my marriage I lived in a college town, and you all know what that means in giving access to the best books and to libraries. After my marriage I moved into the country, 35 miles from a railroad, where a newspaper was new to me, no matter how old it was, and a book was something that was hailed with great delight. I made up my mind then that if it was ever in my power to do something for farmers and farmers' wives, I would do so, and I am very thankful now that I am in a position to do a very little. I count myself most fortunate in securing so powerful an ally as the Seaboard Air Line. They do everything that I ask them to do for me, because they know it is a work of love on my part. On account of a recent gift from Mr. Carnegie, it is possible for me to send out a great many new books. Many old books are sent to me, but I weed these out to get fresh new books for my people. Mr. Carnegie's gift has put Mr. St. John, the general manager of the Seaboard Air Line, in possession of \$1000 to spend; and now the publishers in New York City say they will give me 30 or 40 discount on the books that I am to buy to distribute among the country people. I am glad I am here and glad that you all are taking so much interest in what I am doing, and I feel that every woman and man here is going to send me some inspiring thought that will help keep me moving onward and upward, and help me in working for my people of the south, Virginia, North Carolina, South Carolina, Georgia, and Florida — those are my states that I am working in — the land of the south, the land of the mockingbird and the jessamine and everything that is beautiful.

Miss E. G. BROWNING followed with a paper on

#### HOW WOMEN'S CLUBS MAY HELP THE LIBRARY MOVEMENT.

(See p. 18.)

In the absence of H. M. UTLEY his paper on

#### HOW TO PLAN A LIBRARY BUILDING

was read by title,

(See p. 21.)

and the session closed with a paper by Miss C. M. HEWINS on

#### HOW TO MAKE A LIBRARY ATTRACTIVE.

(See p. 23.)

Announcement was made that the conference would be transferred on Friday morning to Lithia Springs, where the final sessions would be held.

Adjourned 12.55.

#### FOURTH SESSION.

(KIMBALL HOUSE, THURSDAY MORNING,  
MAY 11.)

Previous to the general session the Committee on Revision of the Constitution held a special hearing to receive suggestions and criticisms for incorporation in the revised draft of constitution to be submitted by them. This hearing was opened at 9 a.m. It was largely attended and occupied the full hour allotted to it, evoking general discussion.

The meeting was called to order by President LANE at 10.05.

President LANE presented a communication addressed to the American Library Association by M. Paul Otlet, Secretary-General of the Institut International de Bibliographie of Brussels, calling attention to an

INTERNATIONAL BIBLIOGRAPHICAL CONGRESS, to be held under the auspices of the institute in connection with the Paris Exposition of 1900, and proposing that this congress be devoted entirely to matters of bibliography proper, while a second congress, to be held simultaneously, should treat subjects of general library economy and administration.

It was *Voted*, That M. Otlet's communication be referred to the advisory committee on A. L. A. Exhibit at Paris Exposition.

The appointment of the advisory committee on A. L. A. Exhibit at Paris Exposition was announced as follows: W. T. Peoples, Miss A. R. Hasse, C. W. Andrews.

#### REPRODUCTIONS OF ANCIENT MANUSCRIPTS.

President LANE. — I have received from A. W. Sijthoff, of Leyden, a letter calling attention to the series of reproductions of ancient manuscripts carried out by his house. This enterprise was planned by the International Association of Librarians at the instigation of

Dr. du Rieu. That particular form of the plan came to an end with the death of Dr. du Rieu. The series, however, has been undertaken, and it is a matter of great interest and importance that these ancient manuscripts should be reproduced in sufficient number to ensure their preservation, and in that way be accessible in different libraries in different parts of the world; and all libraries which have the means ought to support this enterprise.

#### ELECTION OF OFFICERS.

Announcement was made that the polls would be open for election of officers from 8 to 10 o'clock that evening, and W. R. Eastman and J. I. Wyer were appointed tellers.

#### RESOLUTION ON APPOINTMENT OF LIBRARIAN OF CONGRESS.

R. R. BOWKER. — I offer the following motion: That the thanks of the American Library Association be expressed to the President of the United States for the principles recognized by him in his appointment of a Librarian of Congress, that fitness, training, and experience should determine the choice of those charged with the administration of libraries. Referred to the Committee on Resolutions.

The regular program, which dealt with phases of co-operative work, and had been prepared under the direction of the Co-operation Committee, was opened by T. L. MONTGOMERY, who read the

#### REPORT OF THE CO-OPERATION COMMITTEE.

(See p. 92.)

Dr. CYRUS ADLER spoke on  
THE INTERNATIONAL CATALOGUE OF SCIENTIFIC LITERATURE.\*

The first conference on an International Catalogue of Scientific Literature was held in London in July, 1896. It reached certain definite conclusions, but remitted to the Royal Society the study of all questions remaining undecided for report. At the end of March, 1898, the committee of the Royal Society presented such a report to the various governments, containing schedules of classification for various sciences, and details of a card catalog, of a book catalog, and of the government of the work by the for-

mation of an international council and international committee of referees, and a central bureau consisting of a general director, skilled assistants for each branch of science, and clerks.

It was estimated that 40,000 communications would have to be indexed per year, and that if on the average there were three analytical slips for each entry, 160,000 such per annum would be issued, that the book catalog would amount to about 16 volumes, that in order to cover the expense of the entire scheme there would have to be 350 subscriptions to the book catalog at \$80 a year, for the card catalog 130 subscriptions at \$75 a year, or, if the analytical card catalog were issued, 171 subscriptions at \$175 per year — that is, for the whole scheme, if carried out, the subscription would be about \$330 per year.

The conference met in London, Tuesday, Oct. 11, 1898, the representatives of 18 governments participating.

It would not be possible in the time allowed to give even an abstract of the discussions of the conference and the conclusions which were reached. It may be well, however, to indicate some of the principal topics of discussion. One of the earliest to be raised was whether the attempt should be made, in view of the great cost, to issue a card catalog. Many delegates thought it impracticable. The conference, however, affirmed in principle the publication of the catalog in the double form of books and cards. There was considerable discussion concerning the list of sciences to be indexed, and their scope. It was decided, for instance, to limit "Geography" to Mathematical Physical Geography, and to exclude Political and General Geography. It was also agreed that the index should be a subject index, each subject to be arranged in special classes, and that for purposes of notation, letters, numbers, or possibly other symbols might be used, and that these should, in the cases of each science, best meet the needs of that science, although as far as possible they were to conform to a general scheme.

As it was evident that the details of classification could not be discussed at a general conference, a resolution prevailed that the authoritative decisions as to the schedules be entrusted to an international committee consisting of Professor Armstrong, Chevallier Descamps,

\* This is a summary of a more extended account of the international catalog conference, contributed by Dr. Adler to *Science*, for June 2 and June 9, 1899.

Professor Foster, Doctor S. P. Langley, Professor Poincare, Professor Rücker, Professor Waldeyer, and Professor Weiss. To this committee a representative of Russia has since been added, and it is understood that a report will be drawn up during the summer of 1899. It was further decided that the delegates from the various countries take measures to obtain the opinions of scientific men as to the several features of the catalog. In the United States a committee was appointed consisting of Dr. J. S. Billings, chairman; Professor Simon Newcomb, Dr. Theodore Gill, Professor H. P. Bowditch, Dr. Robert Fletcher, Mr. Clement W. Andrews, Mr. Herbert Putnam, and Dr. Cyrus Adler, secretary. This committee obtained advice and criticism from some 20 sub-committees of the faculties of the leading universities of the United States, of some of the important learned societies, and of distinguished librarians, and transmitted a report together with many details to the committee at London.

It has been the intention to begin the catalog on Jan. 1, 1900, and with this view special appropriation was asked from Congress to enable the United States to do its share of the work, but this unfortunately failed. Should the catalog actually begin at that date, it is still hoped that by the co-operation of the universities and libraries in five or six of the large centres, the work can be carried on for one year, and that when the subject is next presented to Congress it will meet with more favorable consideration.

Dr. ADLER then presented the

REPORT OF THE A. L. A. COMMITTEE ON INTERNATIONAL CATALOGUE OF SCIENTIFIC LITERATURE.

The committee appointed by the American Library Association to co-operate in securing aid from Congress for the International Catalogue of Scientific Literature begs to present the following report:

The Secretary of State in October, 1898, in his annual estimates, requested the sum of \$10,000 to be expended under the direction of the Smithsonian Institute for this purpose. He also addressed letters to the chairmen of the Committees on Appropriation of the Senate and the House strongly recommending the grant. The item was not reported by the House Committee on Appropriations. Your committee then

held a meeting, being joined by Mr. Herbert Putnam. The New York Public Library, the Boston Public Library, the John Crerar Library and the officers of your association sent petitions to Congress urging the appropriation.

Dr. Billings went to Washington and saw members of the Senate Appropriation Committee, and at the same time a letter was sent by the Secretary of the State strongly urging favorable action. Accordingly the Senate committee inserted an item appropriating the sum of \$5000, which passed the Senate, but failed in conference. The failure was due to no unfriendliness to the project itself, but was the result of one of those inevitable compromises between the Senate and House, the conference committee having to choose between it, and the provision of absolutely indispensable officials for our Embassies abroad.

The committee recommended the adoption of a resolution urging the importance of this matter upon Congress, and further recommends that the individual members of the association endeavor favorably to dispose members of Congress to support an appropriation for this important work.

Respectfully submitted,

J. S. BILLINGS,  
C. W. ANDREWS,  
CYRUS ADLER.

C. W. ANDREWS. — It has been suggested that I might make perhaps a slight addition to Dr. Adler's report, having been on the committee. The decision as to the form of the catalog seems to have been in the nature of a compromise between the system of a slip or card catalog and book form, as to which would be the cheapest and most desirable. It seems to me that by this plan an individual worker would have to work about 40 years in 40 separate volumes to obtain information on a subject. The plan suggested by Harvard and by the John Crerar Library and others was in the nature of a sheet issue instead of a card issue, which would enable titles to be consolidated and would produce great economy. If the sheets were made cumulative it would be a great improvement. I should be very glad to have the opinions of librarians who have had any experience with cumulative sheet issues on the feasibility of the plan. I mean to try it myself with the electrotpe which we use at the John Crerar Library and see if it is feasible,

W. I. FLETCHER. — We understand that a certain price has been named as the probable cost of this catalog. At the same time I understand that the United States Government, and I suppose other governments as well, are being approached for financial support. There must be a very large difference in the cost, to be affected by the question whether or no the governments give that support; and also it is singular if the price cannot be fixed without reference to the number of subscribers. I am much interested to know whether there is any prospect that the government aid or the securing of a considerable number of subscribers might not largely reduce the cost.

Dr. ADLER. — The scheme of cost is based upon a minimum number of subscribers. It is estimated, for example, that the least number of subscribers that will successfully carry the book catalog out is 350. The appropriation from the government that has been asked for is quite another matter. Part of the plan, of course, is that each country or region shall collect scientific literature of its own country. In the United States it is proposed to establish a central bureau for the purpose of collecting and arranging the original matter that goes into this catalog. It is for the support of this establishment that the appropriation has been asked. At a very low estimate \$10,000 per annum would be required to do the work for the United States, and the appropriation is for that purpose. The United States is looked forward to very hopefully. It is supposed to be likely to take between 20 and 30 copies of the complete catalog. It is my opinion that it will take more, but I did not wish to make too many promises.

The report was accepted; and it was *Voted*, That the American Library Association respectfully urges upon Congress the appropriation of a sufficient sum to enable the United States to be worthily represented in the proposed International Catalogue of Scientific Literature. It was also *Voted*, That the executive board be requested to continue the committee on International Catalogue of Scientific Literature.

In the absence of HERVEY WHITE his paper ON THE VALUE OF HOME AND PRISON LIBRARIES was read by title and accepted for printing.

(See p. 27.)

#### DUPLICATION OF BIBLIOGRAPHIC WORK.

Mrs. S. C. FAIRCHILD. — I should like to say a word on the persistent waste of strength that is constantly occurring in the duplication of bibliographic work. The Co-operation Committee speaks of the proposed co-operation between the Library School and the American Historical Association. Three people were selected to prepare a bibliography, at the request of the committee of the American Historical Association, on the important subject of Colonies and Dependencies. In a recent visit to the Library of Congress I inadvertently discovered that the bibliographer of the Library of Congress had done much work in this direction. There should be some way of preventing such duplication. We need all the strength we have, without wasting it in having different people working independently at the same thing. It would probably be possible to secure an institution that would be willing to register bibliographic work about to be undertaken, with the names of the people undertaking it. Of course, librarians do a very small part of the bibliographic work that is done; it is done mainly by scientific men or persons connected with scientific institutions. Some working plan should be prepared that will let every person in the country who is likely to do any bibliographic work know that he may have the privilege of registering at some central institution or bureau, and thus learn if others are interested in the same work. I move that the association request the executive board to formulate such a working plan and put it into operation.

W. I. FLETCHER. — In seconding Mrs. Fairchild's motion I would say that the Publishing Section has contemplated some movement in this direction. It should probably take the form of a sort of bulletin which might absorb and make generally available to libraries works of this kind, whose promoters would be willing to have them absorbed in this way by the Publishing Section. The Publishing Section, I think, could well undertake to circularize the libraries of the country on this point.

It was *Voted*, That the executive board be requested to formulate a working plan for preventing, so far as possible, duplication of bibliographic work, and to put the same into operation.

F. J. TEGGART spoke on

## PLAN FOR A HANDBOOK OF AMERICAN LIBRARIES.

The proposal which I desire to lay before you on this occasion has already been brought to your attention through a paper which appeared in the *Library Journal* for December, 1897. I pointed out there that in most of the countries of Europe the demand for accurate information in regard to libraries had called forth some form of handbook epitomizing the leading points of importance or interest in connection with each institution.

Varying in degrees of accuracy and merit, these works have been constructed usually on one of three lines: statistical, descriptive, or bibliographical.

The especial point in favor of the first of these methods is that it gives an easily understood basis for an approximate estimate of the relative importance of different libraries, and thus far subserves a useful purpose. But there, except in so far as the list provides a convenient address book of libraries and librarians, the value of the statistical table ends. There is no means of obtaining from it any definite conception of the value, scope or usefulness of an institution. For all that a tabulated statement may say the Sutro library of San Francisco, stowed inoperative in inaccessible warehouses, is superior to the Boston Athenæum, and the disjointed library of the University of Chicago as easily utilized as that of Harvard College.

A more elaborate method, and one which has been followed frequently, consists in giving at more or less length a connected account of each of the libraries of a country or district. Such a method applied generally becomes the history of libraries as usually written, notwithstanding that in practice the method has proven unwieldy.

In illustration of the latter point may be instanced Mr. C. C. Jewett's "Notices of public libraries in the United States," Wash., 1851. Although published at the beginning of the modern library movement and giving but brief accounts of the institutions known to the compiler, the book reaches an extent of 200 pages. But a new edition published a few years later (by W. J. Rhees, Phil., 1859), compiled on the same lines, contains 700 pages.

Notwithstanding their drawbacks, such descriptive works have been popular and continue to appear. In addition to the works of Jewett

and Rhees much of this kind of material is to be found in Guild's "Manual" of 1858 and in the Bureau of Education Report of 1876. Since the latter date no attempt on a general scale has been made to bring the information down to date for the United States. Certain districts have, however, been covered: Mrs. Apponyi's "Libraries of California" appeared in 1878, the New Hampshire Library Commission reported on the libraries of that state in 1894, the Library Association of Washington City prepared a descriptive list of libraries there in 1897, and the monumental volume of the Massachusetts Library Commission giving a descriptive account of each of the free public libraries of the state has just been published.

Works such as these furnish most valuable evidence of the condition of the libraries of a country, but their bulk rather serves to hide the details of information which are more clearly presented in statistical form; and on the other hand, limitations of space forbid the insertion of technical matter which librarians would value, or the minutiae dear to the historical mind.

As an example, it may be noted that while Quincy's "History of the Boston Athenæum" (Cambridge, 1851) contains over 300 pages, the account of that library published the same year in Jewett's "Notices" covers less than four pages. And so it must always happen—in an encyclopædia restricted to a single volume one must be content with meagre information.

But why not, instead of compiling brief and unsatisfactory accounts, simply refer the inquirer to such books, pamphlets, or other records as have appeared in print?

This attitude was taken in the earlier part of the century by Vogel in his "Litteratur Europäischer öffentlicher und corporations-bibliotheken" (Lpz., 1840). Later the bibliographical method has also been followed for French libraries in the *Annuaire des bibliothèques* (since 1886), for Germany in Petzholdt's "Adressbuch," and with rare accuracy and typographical excellence for Italy in Ottino and Fumagalli's "Bibliotheca bibliographica Italica" (Rome, 1889-95).

Not that this method is devoid of objectionable features, for a library with a voluminous literature might perhaps be no longer in existence, might be insignificant in size, or of small general utility, while one of genuine importance might be but slightly represented. On

the whole, however, most libraries have found an historian, and are represented in print in about the ratio of their prominence.

It seems to me that a handbook of value might be constructed by embodying the good points of the methods to which I have been speaking.

To put my proposal in definite form — I think that the time has come for the preparation of a Handbook of American Libraries. The information to be included should cover for each library the date of its foundation, the legal provision for its establishment, the sources and amount of its revenue, the number of volumes and an average of its increase, the special collections in each and their strength; also, a list of the librarians with the dates of their tenure of office, a list of all publications of the library, and a similar list of all publications which have appeared treating of it in any way.

As to the means for gathering these facts, it may be said that the California Library Association is compiling just such a handbook for that state, and there should be little trouble in securing the co-operation of the 27 library associations and clubs which are in existence.

I also wish to point out the desirability of having the handbook prepared in time to be presented as a part of the American exhibit at the Paris Exposition.

It is therefore moved that the executive committee of the A. L. A. appoint a committee to inquire into this matter with power to undertake it if found practicable.

R. R. BOWKER. — Has Mr. Teggart made any estimate of the size of such a work? What he is doing in California suggests how interesting such a work would be, but the limitations ought to be considered for a moment and the suggestions which he has made regarding his own state would perhaps put the thing in more practicable shape. If the preparation of a handbook for each state could be recommended to each state association, a good beginning would be made, but a book of such scope on a national scale would be an almost impracticable task. In some states it would be quite possible and very desirable to prepare such material; in others it would seem to be practically impossible. The committee should have before it the suggestion that a recommendation be made to the state associations to do the work,

rather than that the work should be undertaken by the association.

H. L. ELMENDORF. — The material, however, should be in the hands of the association as an association.

It was *Voted*, That a committee be appointed by the executive board to consider the expediency of compiling a handbook of American libraries, and to compile such handbook if that be thought advisable.\*

Miss E. E. DAVIS spoke on the

#### PROPOSED ISSUE OF CATALOG SLIPS BY HARPER & BROTHERS.

Harper & Bros. have under consideration a plan for issuing catalog slips for all their publications. They purpose to send out a sufficient number of author slips to cover completely the cataloging of a book. Titles and subject headings are to be written in by the libraries receiving the slips. All slips will be printed on good linen paper, which can be mounted on a heavier card. The slips will be the size of the standard catalog card. The Decimal classification and Cutter number will be given. The slips will arrive a week before the publication of a book, thus serving the purpose of announcements as well as fulfilling their mission as catalog cards.

For many years the American Library Association has endeavored to induce the publishers to do just this thing. If the amount of money expended in advertising to libraries can only be utilized and made to pay for something of practical service to the libraries and at the same time be an effective advertisement, the possibilities that open out are many and attractive. But you must lend this first and rather feeble effort your aid. You say that you wish the publishers to issue catalog slips or cards. Will you pay the cost of mailing them to your library for one year at intervals of two weeks as a guarantee of your interest in the matter? The sum requested is slight, only 50 cents a year, and in all probability the second or third year will bring you better cards with less or perhaps no expense.

F. M. CRUNDEN, for the

COMMITTEE ON REVISION OF A. L. A. CONSTITUTION, requested votes, by show of hands, on the following questions, which should guide the

\* The committee was later appointed, as follows: F. J. Teggart, T. L. Montgomery, C. W. Andrews.

committee in preparing a revised draft of the constitution:

Shall the constitution recognize affiliated organizations? No.

Shall the constitution alter status of sections? No.

Shall sections be specifically represented in the council? No.

Shall the name of the Publishing Section be altered to Publishing Board? Yes.

Shall the council include all ex-presidents of the association, *ex officio*? No.

Shall the council have the general management of the business affairs of the association? Yes.

Shall the council designate place of meeting? Yes.

Shall the council elect the officers of the association? No.

Shall they nominate officers, leaving any member with the right to make any nomination desired? Yes.

Shall the constitution be changed, making the president eligible for immediate re-election? No.

Shall the ranking vice-president succeed the president in case of vacancy? Yes.

Will the association decide to adopt the substance of the constitution at this meeting, the draft to be sent in print to each member by next October and finally adopted at the next meeting? Yes.

Shall matters of detail be relegated, as far as possible, to the by-laws? Yes.

C. W. ANDREWS read a paper on

#### CO-OPERATIVE LISTS OF PERIODICALS AND TRANSACTIONS OF SOCIETIES.

(See p. 29.)

JOHN THOMSON spoke on a

#### PLAN FOR A CO-OPERATIVE LIST OF INCUNABULA.

As my contribution to this discussion on co-operative work, I invite the assistance of the members of the A. L. A. in exactly the opposite way to which assistance is generally requested. Instead of asking permission to write to each member of the A. L. A., I want the members of the association to be good enough to take the initiative and to write to me, and in justification of these novel proceedings, some explanation is demanded. Philadelphia was fortunate enough last fall to have a trustee of

the Free Library in London who proved his activity and industrious watch for good things by discovering a collection, probably unequalled, of some 600 volumes of incunabula which had been gathered together by the celebrated expert Dr. Copinger, and he was skilled enough in the arts of purchasing to obtain the refusal of these volumes for a limited period. The Free Library was happy in having, beyond this, a trustee large-pursed and large-hearted enough to yield to the gentle persuasions of the librarian and put the library in possession of the fine collection at his own expense. I will not explain in detail what these 600 volumes are, because the particulars have been given to some extent in the last annual report of the library and you can thus readily inform yourselves how splendid a collection it is. It is not a selection of incunabula from one or two presses, nor one country. It represents over 302 presses, although there are only 600 volumes in the collection. Another member of the board of trustees has some 380 incunabula in his own private library, and knowing how many are owned by the members of the Grolier Club and by the different universities and libraries of this country, when Mr. Carl Edelheim, who had been staying in Mainz, returned to America he brought with him a formal request from the municipal authorities of Mainz (Germany), that some institution in this country should undertake or attempt to compile a hand list of incunabula owned by Americans.

This hand list it is proposed to send to Mainz as one feature of the quincenary celebration of the birth of Gutenberg, which is to be held in his natal city. Mr. Edelheim thought that the Free Library might possibly interest itself in this matter. It has done so. The object in view is to obtain the information above suggested, and in no way can we achieve this so readily as through the members of the American Library Association. It is of great importance to know where copies of these specimens of the books printed before 1501 are preserved. That it is of great importance to persons to know where they can consult a valuable incunabula, may be illustrated by the work accomplished by Dr. Oscar Sommer, which is familiar to us all. We are all well acquainted with his excellent "Morte D'Arthur," which was published a few years ago. The finest copies he could cite were in the British Museum and the

Althorp Library, but the treasure of treasures was in America. He obtained leave of absence from his official duties in Berlin for 18 months in order to prepare this edition of the "Morte D'Arthur," and yet some nine pages were not to be found in the copies to which he had access. He ascertained that the finest and the completest copy had been purchased by Mrs. Abbey Pope, of Brooklyn. Naturally he came in quest of such a treasure, and all literary people are benefited by a roundness being given to Dr. Sommers's work which could never have been obtained but for knowing where this copy was preserved.

It will be of great value to book-lovers if we can prepare a list of incunabula in this country and send it over as the contribution of America to the quincentenary to be held at Mainz. I have placed myself in communication with the members and other authorities of institutions and libraries likely to own incunabula, and through Mr. Samuel P. Avery, Mr. Robert Hoe, Mr. R. H. Bayard Bowie, and others, with many who are owners of very valuable volumes.

What I want to ask as a personal favor and also in the interests of the association, is that every member of the A. L. A. who knows where one or more incunabula are should enter into communication with the Free Library in order to bring this information before the compilers of this hand list. Every library lover who can help in this work will, I hope, take the trouble to forward to me the names and addresses of owners of incunabula, so that those engaged in the compilation of this hand list may be able to place themselves in communication with the owners of these books. I recently wrote to the possessor of probably the largest collection of illustrated medical incunabula in the world, Dr. Stockton Hough. He had on several occasions lent me copies of several of his treasures for different purposes, and he has promised to assist on the hand list about which we are talking.

If you will help us in this way, I believe a very important co-operative measure will have been carried out by our association, and I will in conclusion, therefore, express the hope that we may have it published at an early date, so that not only those who hear me speak, but also those who read the proceedings, will do what they can in aiding a work that will not only redound to our credit, but will be of the ut-

most value as a bulletin to every large library in the country. The Free Library has undertaken the work, and we want to get your help by communications addressed to us; for we necessarily cannot know where to apply for information unless we are put upon the right track. I have conversed with Dr. Billings on the subject, and have had from him several communications promising the co-operation of the New York Public Library. On his suggestion, the particulars of such incunabula as are named to us will be at once listed and mimeograph copies of such lists will be prepared as speedily after the close of this conference as possible. Members of the association or institutions having a large number of incunabula will, on application to the Free Library, be furnished with a mimeograph copy, so that they can mark such books as are already owned by themselves or owned by persons of whom they have knowledge, and then add to this list such additional incunabula as are not included in the mimeographed copy.

W. I. FLETCHER. — May we hope that when this list is printed, there will be an indication of the various libraries in which the incunabula listed will be found?

Mr. THOMSON. — Yes, certainly. That is the principle of the list.

Mr. DEWEY. — How will it be distributed?

Mr. THOMSON. — Librarians shall have a copy; especially those who help us. Outside persons will have to pay for it.

Dr. HERBERT FRIEDENWALD spoke briefly of the

#### ST. GALL CONFERENCE UPON THE PRESERVATION AND REPAIR OF ANCIENT MANUSCRIPTS.\*

WILLIAM BEER presented a summary of his

#### REPORT ON AIDS AND GUIDES.†

There have been but few publications of great importance. On the other hand, the number of special bibliographies and reading lists, the latter published in library bulletins issued at regular intervals or, as in the case of the New York State Library, as often as matter accumulates, has been largely on the increase.

\* Dr. Friedenwald's paper was not furnished for publication. For a report of the St. Gall conference, see *Library Journal*, Feb., 1899, p. 61.

† The full report was not completed in time for publication. It will probably be published separately by Mr. Beer.



Perhaps the most valuable assistance to the librarian from a practical point of view has been the publication of the "General index to the *Library Journal*," a key to the most valuable collection of literature in the work of the librarian in any country or in any language.

In the field of general bibliography the only work which has appeared is that by H. Stein, which, though faulty and incomplete in many sections, is of considerable service.

In making out an alphabetical list of special bibliographies, I have availed myself largely of the lists given in the *Library Journal*, in the *Centralblatt für Bibliothekswesen*, and in the good index of the "American catalogue."

The bibliographical work being done at the different departments of the government at Washington is very considerable. The Agricultural Department has issued many bulletins of great value to librarians. The Superintendent of Documents has issued monthly a well-constructed list followed by a good general index.

I have not included in the list of bibliographical aids those reading lists contained in library bulletins, referring for that information to the annual supplement of the admirable "Index to subject bibliographies in library bulletins," which was issued by the New York State Library in 1898.

I do not wish to leave the subject without reference to the general improvement in the character of library bulletins and to the special excellence of those issued by Mr. Foster, of Providence.

It is, of course, understood that these reports are made for the assistance of small libraries in order that they may obtain when the need occurs the assistance of the special works named. I cannot, however, refrain from mentioning the approaching completion of the Catalogue of the British Museum, which but few libraries can possess. For books written in our mother tongue it more nearly approaches the Universal Catalogue than any list which has yet been produced.

Several small libraries have issued catalogs and finding lists during 1898. Both in arrangement and in printing they show a notable improvement over the work of earlier years.

While the United States and England have long enjoyed the advantages of admirable annual indexes to periodicals, it is only in 1898 that France and Germany have made such

necessary provision. These indexes, though incomplete, furnish a handy reference to the more serious periodical publications of the two countries. I refer to Jordell's "Repertoire bibliographique des principales revues francaises" (Paris, 1898, 10 + 210 p.), and to Dietrich's "Bibliographie der Deutschen Zeitschriften litteratur" (Leipzig).

In conclusion, I will briefly refer to two publications of the most useful character and easily procurable.

It has always seemed to me that the fiction in periodicals is unduly neglected after its publication in book form, and this mainly for want of a knowledge of the original place of publication. A list which is appearing in the *Bulletin of Bibliography*, published by the Boston Book Co., will go far to make happy many a reader of fiction to whom the desired volume has been unattainable. I sincerely hope that the list will, after revision, be separately published, at a fair price.

I suppose few librarians have not been asked repeatedly about the authorship of some play which is on the boards of his town for the first time. Until recently I knew of no source of information on this subject. Remember, I do not speak of classics, but of the plays of today. Such a source, however, exists. It is published by the American Dramatists' Club, and gives a list of acting plays, authors, and owners.

J. L. WHITNEY read a paper on the

#### PROPOSED ISSUE OF A PRINTED CATALOG OF THE BOSTON PUBLIC LIBRARY.

(See p. 8.)

It was announced that the association would meet on the following morning at the Sweetwater Park Hotel, Lithia Springs, Ga.

Adjourned at 1.10 p.m.

#### FIFTH SESSION.

(ASSEMBLY ROOM, SWEETWATER PARK HOTEL,  
LITHIA SPRINGS, FRIDAY MORNING, MAY 12.)

The meeting was called to order at 12.15 p.m. by President LANE, who stated that owing to plans having been altered and the place of meeting changed the program had been somewhat rearranged, and that the present hour's session would be followed by general sessions in the afternoon and evening.

W. R. EASTMAN, on behalf of the tellers, announced the

#### ELECTION OF OFFICERS.

The result of the balloting was reported as follows:

*President:* Reuben G. Thwaites, 69; two others received respectively 35 and 16.

*Vice-presidents:* Edwin H. Anderson, 78; Mary W. Plummer, 55; Ernest C. Richardson, 50. (Six others received votes varying from 16 to 46.)

*Secretary:* Henry J. Carr, 110.

*Recorder:* Helen E. Haines, 109.

*Treasurer:* Gardner M. Jones, 112.

*Trustee of Endowment Fund:* John M. Glenn, 97.

*A. L. A. Council:* John S. Billings, 88; William C. Lane, 87; Clement W. Andrews, 74; Electra C. Doren, 46.

#### COMMITTEE ON LIBRARY EXAMINATIONS AND CREDENTIALS.

President LANE.—The committee on library examinations and credentials, which was instructed to report to the executive board, has made a report of progress, and desires to be continued. The subject, then, will not be brought before the association by the executive board, and the committee will be continued another year.

WILLIAM BEER read a paper on

#### LIBRARIES IN THE GULF STATES.

(See p. 6.)

Dr. CYRUS ADLER.—In this connection it may not be improper to draw attention to a collection in a Georgia library, which, though a small treasure, is a very valuable one. I refer to the collection of William B. Hodgson, whose name is probably well known in Georgia, now deposited in the Telfair Academy of Arts and Sciences of Savannah, Ga. Mr. Hodgson was one of the few men regularly trained for the United States diplomatic service, being sent first to Paris and afterwards to Tunis, Beyrout, and Constantinople to perfect himself in the languages of the Orient. He continued in this service for something like 20 years, and while in the East he studied the languages of the countries. He became specially interested in Berber, wrote the first Berber grammar, and secured the best collection of Berber manu-

scripts ever gotten together. Some years ago this collection of Oriental books and manuscripts gathered by Mr. Hodgson was sent from the Telfair Academy to the Smithsonian Institution, where the manuscripts were cataloged and copies sent to the committee of the American Oriental Society, which is engaged in making a catalog of the Oriental manuscripts in America. In this collection, strange to say, there is one bit of Americana, being the first book issued from the Ottoman press, called "The history of the West Indies." There are but two manuscripts of this work known to me, one belonging to the librarian of the Oriental Society deposited at Yale University, and the other in my own possession, and the only other printed copy known to me is the one in the library of the School of Living Oriental Languages, in Paris (Ecole des Langues Vivantes Orientales). The other printed copy, as I have said, is in the Telfair Academy of Arts and Sciences in Savannah.

T. F. CURRIER read a paper by W. SCOTT on THE USE OF THE POSTAL SYSTEM AT SECOND RATES OR COST AS A CARRIER SYSTEM FOR PUBLIC AND INCORPORATED LIBRARIES.\*

Second postage rates, briefly stated, embrace publications issued at least four times a year. Newspapers, periodicals, and paper-covered serial books are the most common examples of such publications. The cost of mailing is one cent, a pound or fractional part thereof. If delivered by a carrier one cent per copy is added.

Third class matter includes printed books, pamphlets, and other specified matter. The rate is one cent for two ounces or fraction thereof.

To send a magazine to a subscriber costs one cent, or if subscriber is in a letter carrier district, two cents. To send a library book of the same weight costs for postage eight cents. Thus to mail the library book costs eight times as much as the magazine, or, if to a carrier delivery office, four times as much.

The admission of books from public and incorporated libraries at more favorable rates than now exist, at second rates or cost, is advocated on the following grounds:

1. Economic grounds. The postal system should be on a self-supporting basis in the interests of the system itself and of economical gov-

\* Abstract.

ernment. If, with proper revisions, second postage rates rest on economic grounds, it is obvious the use of the postal system at second rates as a library carrier system would be economic. Moreover it is probable such carriage of books would be more profitable than the other matter because the carriage for libraries generally would be short, in circles of a small radius, ranging from one mile to 25 or 100 miles.

When it is considered that libraries are maintained by public taxation and philanthropic gifts to the public, and that great permanent investments and annual expenditures are involved in their administration, the lack of adjustment between library and postal systems appears a waste of public wealth. The present defective arrangement stands in the way of the development of a comprehensive library system. In consequence every feature of library administration is conducted at increased cost and yields inadequate returns. The people who sustain the postal system under federal laws and libraries under state laws thus bear needless burdens which a postal service for libraries as cheap and effective as is granted to private or corporate parties would lessen.

2. Educational grounds. The postal laws diffuse good reading at minimum rates, promote the circulation of literary, scientific, and other publications tending to public enlightenment. The general government gives not only minimum postal rates to such printed matter, but itself prints numerous publications and sends them free through the mails in the interest of the education of the people. It has given to the states large sums in land grants and otherwise for education, and it permanently supports important educational enterprises. The public libraries are a leading educational agency, and to grant them minimum postal rates is in line with the settled policy of the general government. They are sustained by the people under state laws and heavy tax burdens and at a disadvantage from lack of a carrier system. Such a system will promote the circulation of books where no libraries now exist as well as at library centres, and will tend to develop a library system to reach every family and individual as effectively as does the postal system.

3. On grounds of civic equality. As a civic principle and sound public policy the equalization of library opportunity should be worked out to the utmost possible extent. Libraries

have been founded under state laws by civic units, as districts, towns and cities, differing in population and wealth. Thus some communities have vast book collections and palatial library buildings; others have scant library facilities, and many have none. This defect in the public library movement has been recognized and deplored by all who see in the library an important agency for the public good. These unequal library conditions exist in every part of the United States. Nothing probably could do so much to give libraries accessibility and freedom of movement and to hasten equal library privileges as the use of the postal system for carriage of books at cost. It would be the first step toward making every post-office a library delivery station and every carrier a library helper. To obtain a library book would become as easy as to get a magazine, paper or letter from the mail. Practical equality of library privileges might thus soon become an accomplished fact except in the case of reference libraries which cannot be movable under present conditions.

4. On social grounds. To justify the founding and support of libraries by a tax places the public library on the basis of social necessity and claims for it a high place as an uplifting social force. Whatever makes the library accessible is, therefore, sound public policy. Users of libraries will appreciate the need of improving the circulation of books not only to reach localities without libraries, but to give better service where libraries exist.

Printed matter, inferior and demoralizing, which has done much harm in ways that might be specified, has used with energy and intelligence the postal, express and railway systems. It has mastered the problem of circulation. Here is, perhaps, the weakest point of the public library: the lack of a carrier or delivery system which is cheap, effective and comprehensive. Such a carrier system is at hand in the postal system. Let it be utilized, and the library will be strengthened where it is now weak and will enter upon larger fields of social influence and power than hitherto.

It was *Voted*, That the executive board appoint a committee to consult with the New England League upon this matter and to report at the meeting to be held in 1900 upon the subject of providing cheap postage for books.

Adjourned at 1.10.

## SIXTH SESSION.

(ASSEMBLY ROOM, SWEETWATER PARK HOTEL,  
LITHIA SPRINGS, FRIDAY AFTERNOON, MAY 12.)

The meeting was called to order at 3.10 p. m. by President LANE, who announced that the session would be devoted to a

DISCUSSION OF OPEN SHELVES IN THE LIGHT OF  
ACTUAL EXPERIENCE,

to be opened by W. H. BRETT.

W. H. BRETT.\*—Ten years ago the largest and most important public library in which free access to the shelves was permitted was that at Pawtucket, Rhode Island, a library of about 37,000 volumes in a city of 11,000 population, circulating less than 50,000 annually. This, so far as I am informed, was really the pioneer of open shelves among free libraries. Now at least four of the large city libraries have complete free access to their circulating departments, and several others have partial access—that is, access to certain collections, as, for instance, the books for children. Among the libraries having absolutely unrestricted access is the youngest, and, measured by the work accomplished with the resources available, the greatest of our public libraries, the library which is not only issuing more books annually for home use than any other library in the world, but has a circulation larger in proportion to the number of volumes available, and is issuing books at a lower cost per volume than the average of the larger libraries. Such an illustration of the value of freedom of method in promoting the use and lessening the expense of the public library, is worth a volume of theory and argument.

In England rapid progress has been made within a few years in the direction of greater freedom. Probably the most weighty contribution which has been made to the literature of this subject is the "Account of the safeguarded open access system in public lending libraries," a brochure recently prepared and issued by the librarians of 12 libraries in various parts of England having the system in operation. They append statistics of the libraries under their charge which show that circulation increases under the operation of the access plan, and support fully the claims they make for it. The libraries reporting were opened at various

times from 1893 to 1898, the first being that at Clerkenwell, London, whose librarian, Mr. Brown, visited America in 1893, studied the methods of American libraries, and attended the Chicago meeting.

The most conclusive treatment of the economic advantages or disadvantages of free access may be found in the reports of those libraries in which free access is permitted—the figures there given are convincing.

Indeed, I am inclined to take the position that no argument for open shelves is necessary—that the burden of proof rests with those who would restrict. We have in the public library the people's books, paid for by their money, and deposited in libraries for their use. This use should not be restricted in any way which is not clearly necessary to guard the people's interests. It is not, therefore, for the free library to defend its position; it is rather for the library which bars out the people from the books to defend itself—to give a reason for every hampering regulation which it enforces, every restriction which it imposes, every barrier it places between the people and their own books.

The economic side of this question may be, as I have said, readily settled by statistics, and we have now enough for the purpose. There is, however, the consideration of the educational value of direct access to the books rather than merely to the catalog, that, although we all recognize it, is not expressed in figures.

I shall not attempt, however, at this time to consider this most important phase of the question. My contribution to this discussion is simply to direct to the value of arrangement in an open library as a means of promoting the use of the better books. This applies throughout the library, but most effectually in the children's room and in the fiction department.

For an illustration of what I mean, I need not go further than the current number of the *Library Journal*. Take the delightful paper in which the work in the children's room at the Newark library is described, and consider for a moment whether such a work would be possible in any but an open library, and how much it may be aided by an arrangement which makes prominent the desirable books. The writer, in her work, is dealing with the problem of interesting what she aptly terms the "Ellis boy and the Elsie girl" in better books. She finds that more

\* Mr. Brett's paper is given in condensed form.

potent than lists or the bulletin boards, or any other means, are the books themselves, spread out attractively on the tables or on accessible shelves. Consider the condition of the boy who has only the catalog to select from and finds that Alger and Optic and Ellis are all out. He may plunge into the catalog at random and get the best thing for him, or he may not. Contrast his condition with that of the boy who is welcomed to a pleasant room, with books on the tables and in open shelves, and finds an attendant interested in his wants and ready to help and suggest. He soon discovers that there are other writers of stories besides those he would ask for, and further, that there are other books that are as well worth reading as stories.

Again, take the account, in the same number of the *Journal*, of the work in the Scoville Institute Library, at Oak Park. Here a series of 192 portraits of authors and illustrations of books were exhibited, and prizes were offered for the most correct list of authors and titles of books included in the exhibit. The card catalog and other bibliographical material was placed within reach of the children, and they were instructed in their use. The result was gratifying. Many children were interested, and some exceedingly creditable lists were presented. One little German boy, seven and a half years old, prepared a list of 107 authors.

The value of such work in acquainting the children with the better authors, and in teaching them to use bibliographies, and help themselves, is incalculable, and it is clearly impossible except in an open library. Incidentally this bears also on the question of an age limit.

Take as another illustration the children's room of that library with whose work I am most familiar as I have the honor of being in its service. Here, in a room too small for the purpose, the books are shelved around the wall. The stories occupy the upper shelves and those below the ledge. In the three shelves immediately above the ledge, which are the most conspicuous and easily accessible, are placed a collection of books permanently withdrawn from the main library and really an epitome of it. A large part of these are from history, biography, travel, and elementary science and literature, but every important class is represented, and the books stand in the order of the Decimal classification, as in the main library. The classified books are less than one-third of

the whole. During the entire past year fully 50% of the circulation from the children's room has been drawn from these. I think this furnishes a striking example of what may be done to promote the use of certain books by making them prominent even in a library in which free access to all is permitted.

The largest development of this method of quietly recommending books is that in use in the largest public library in Western New York—a library which, changing from a subscription to a free library about two years ago, and opening its shelves, has increased its circulation manifold. Here a collection of 16,000 volumes selected from a library of about 150,000 are placed on the open shelves of a large and well-lighted room. These constitute what the librarian characterizes as a "recommended library." Upon the shelves of the stacks, to which access may be had upon application, are kept the duplicates of the books in the open shelves, those books which are not of popular interest, but which interest a small circle of readers; as for instance, students in special subjects, and those books which it seems necessary to have, but which cannot be recommended indiscriminately. The result has been that from this small part of the library shown on the open shelves over 50% of the books are issued; and, while a comparison with the former work of the library cannot fairly be made from the great change in condition and increase of resource, there is no question but that the quality of the books issued is better than it would be under conditions which made all books in the library equally accessible or inaccessible, as the case might be. This seems to be one of the most valuable developments of the open-shelf plan.

The admirable plan of Mr. Foster for exhibiting a standard reference library of literature on open shelves in a room especially designed for the purpose in the new Providence Library is another development of the same idea. Such a plan would be of great value as bringing together in proper relation the best in literature. Its value would be greatly enhanced by an ample supply of duplicates so that the demand which it would certainly create might be met.

These are but a few of the ways in which the same idea may be developed.

I believe that those libraries which adopt the open-shelf plan will find in an arrangement

which gives prominence to books which may be recommended a means of quietly guiding those readers who need direction, and will greatly increase the value of the library.

In the absence of S. S. GREEN the paper contributed by him to this discussion was accepted without reading.\*

FRANK P. HILL. — As the fact that I was expected to appear in this discussion had entirely escaped me, you will be spared a prepared paper. My contribution, therefore, will be on the practical work of the Newark Free Public Library.

For a great many years I have been a believer in free access to shelves, and for nearly 10 years have given it practical test to the extent of allowing access to all books in the library when possible; and that includes, curiously enough, all books except fiction, the only reason for excluding fiction being that the space between the shelves is so small that two people cannot pass. If we had room enough we would allow readers to select their own books in the fiction department as well as in all other classes.

The only restriction that occurs to me, after this experience of nearly 10 years, is that art books and expensive books of all kinds should not be placed where they can be easily reached by the entire public. Every other book the public should have access to. Of course the great question that arises relates to the loss occasioned by the use of books in this way. In our own library, for the past eight years, we have lost an annual average between 30 and 40 books, the average cost being between 80c. to \$1.15 apiece. And our circulation has averaged from 230,000 to 270,000 volumes a year. I have no doubt that the good which is accomplished by allowing people to go to the shelves more than overbalances the injury to the books, or the theft of books. As a matter of fact, not more than 10 books were actually taken from the shelves. The remaining 20 to 30 were charged to people, some of which were returned the next year or later.

In our new library building, now in course of erection, we have planned for unrestricted access. We have the children's room, where all juvenile books will be placed; in the main

building we have arranged for shelving some 30,000 volumes, and the stack itself — to be constructed in regular stack-room form, yet permitting access to every part — will accommodate some 200,000 volumes. We have now only about 75,000 volumes, so that it will be possible to take out 30 or 40 per cent. of the shelving and allow access to every department in the stack building. Those who use the main library and the children's room can go from the main library to every portion of the stack except that connected with the reference department. I believe the system is going to work out just as well in the new building on a large plan and scale, as in the present building with our limited facilities. I am a thorough believer, from my experience, in unlimited access, with the restriction of fine art books only, and in allowing the people to have every privilege in the way of going to the shelves.

C. W. ANDREWS. — I would like to ask Mr. Hill how large a reference stack he is planning for?

Mr. HILL. — It will include two stories of the main building.

Mr. ANDREWS. — How many volumes?

Mr. HILL. — About 30,000; but I should say that our building is one which can be extended indefinitely. We can purchase land in the rear of our new property and erect a building similar to the one on the main street, thus doubling the capacity of both the stack and administration building. We can then accommodate, by this addition, something over 500,000 volumes. I will add, however, that our circulation is about 80 per cent. fiction, to which the public has not access; that leaves about 20 per cent. to which they have access, but the percentage of those collections outside of fiction I think is only about one per cent.

F. M. CRUNDEN. — I should like to ask librarians for experiences in the loss of books. Our total losses, from a very limited open-shelf collection in two years, was 1062 volumes, nearly all of which went from two places to which free access was given, namely, the children's room and an open-access corner occupied by new books. The mortality in new books was tremendous.

H. L. ELMENDORF. — In the children's room of the Public Library of Buffalo we had in 13 months, with open shelves containing 1300 volumes, a loss of 298 books thus far unaccounted

\* Mr. Green's paper, "Discrimination regarding 'open shelves' in libraries," will appear in a later number of the *Library Journal*.

for. In 17 months in the entire fiction section of the library 700 books cannot be accounted for, and the greater portion have undoubtedly disappeared. This includes fiction and the 298 volumes from the children's room.

Mr. HILL. — Were any of those books charged to persons and not returned?

Mr. ELMENDORF. — No, sir; these figures do not include that. In the whole collection of biography in the library, amounting to nearly 9000 books, the total loss is 13 books. I think in two years about 1000 books have gone from the library, representing a cost of about \$1000. But my board tell me that they are perfectly satisfied, and that unless we lose \$2500 worth of books a year the open-shelf system pays in dollars and cents in its saving of the expenses of attendance.

F. M. CRUNDEN. — Mr. Hill's statement that 80 per cent. of the circulation of his library is fiction, to which the public have not access, and which leaves only about 20 per cent. to which they have access, explains the extraordinary discrepancies between St. Louis and Newark and Newark and Buffalo, and accounts for the remarkable honesty of Newark. If you cut off 80 per cent. of the circulation you make a very great difference in the amount of the stealing.

At the time we discussed this question at the International Conference I remember receiving a newspaper clipping from home noting the arrest of a book thief who had stolen about 200 volumes from the St. Louis Public Library and 30 or 40 from the St. Louis Mercantile Library. That, of course, on its face would seem an argument against the open-shelf system, but after the facts were known it was no argument against it at all, because all those books were stolen by an expert book thief, who was an educated man and who had the run of both those libraries for 15 or 20 years, and to whom no one would have thought of denying access. He was the kind of a man anybody would have admitted to the stack-room, though a great many of these books had been stolen from the reference-room. So that it seems to me that the case in question is all in favor of free access. No library would cut off students from liberal use of books, and yet it is among students we find the most dangerous book thieves. The large losses we suffered from the open shelves were largely due to the fact that these shelves were right out in the delivery-room, where there

was a constant crowd of people coming, and it was impossible to institute any check. We have now set the books aside in a little corner with a narrow entrance, a desk and an attendant, and we are interested to see what difference this will make in the total loss during the year.

Dr. J. K. HOSMER. — Our experience at Minneapolis may perhaps be of some interest. In a year we have had about 300 books unaccounted for; yet our access is not quite free. At the end of the issue desk is a considerable space where are the newest books, and access to these is completely free. I give a shelf permit admitting to the stacks to every adult person who seems to have a serious literary purpose; in our branches the access is free. It has been noted that in one branch on the south side of our city the percentage of loss is very much greater than in any other part of the library; here borrowers, as they pass in and out, are not under the oversight of an attendant. I am inclined to think it is a good thing to have the books so arranged that the public, as they pass in and out, must pass by an attendant, as Mr. Crunden has suggested. In one of our branches the percentage of loss is very small. The access there is free, but whoever gets a book must pass close by an attendant at the desk. Mr. Brett referred to the "safeguarded access" plan. This is one of the plans of Mr. Brown, of Clerkenwell, whose idea is to have the public inside the library and the staff outside. The library, according to this plan, is railed off with a gate, and the public go through a turnstile and then enter the space where the books are deposited, and where they have free access. When they come out they must pass through another turnstile. The attendants are at this gate outside; the public are inside. It seems to me that free access is a most excellent thing, and we feel that the advantages coming from free access more than compensate for the loss. It is very rarely that we lose a book of much value, and I think these losses would be diminished if the public, in passing in and out, were placed under oversight.

F. P. HILL. — The books in our reference department — some 7000 in number — have been used steadily by the public for 10 years. Among them are our fine art books — and we have a very valuable collection — and in all that time I believe we have not lost a single

book, though the use of the books is very much greater than formerly.

Mr. CRUNDEN.—How about individual plates?

Mr. HILL.—I am sorry to say that plates have been taken out many times and books injured, but no books have been stolen. The worst incident of the sort was when some one cut a definition out of the "Century Dictionary."

JOHN THOMSON.—The discussion has been long, and I have but a few moments in which I can venture to claim your attention.

I want to say, and to say positively, that if we, in the present day, are to go back to closed shelves, we are going back to the first principles of the old librarian who considered that the whole duty of man was to look after books and see that they were all there, and that the public could get at them as little and as rarely as possible. If we are to have open shelves, and nothing else will seem to me to meet the wants of the public, do not let us act like the very ancient librarian who grieved that if the books were taken off the shelves the public would thumb them. I verily believe that if closed shelves are to be adopted as a principle, we are not far from the state of mind of the librarian who had his library opened once a week. The trustees of the library in question thought that was not enough and insisted upon its being opened once a day. The librarian obeyed his trustees and said he would have it open to the public every day for one hour. He opened it from 12 to 1 daily, whilst the entire population of the town were gone to dinner.

I cannot ask your attention upon all the points that have been raised for the discussion, but the principal bugbear in the minds of the majority seems to be, "Will not books be lost?" Let me ask, "What are libraries for?" Are they for the edification of the librarian? Are they for the benefit of a few, or are they the property of the public, to be used by every citizen, and to be used as freely as you use any public property? Do you not have access to the trees in your public parks? Why don't you put a fence around the trees and encircle the park with an iron railing, and put on locks and let the public look over the fence? Books are stolen. Flowers are stolen in the suburbs of every city, but still open lawns are the popular method in this country, and where special need for care exists "keep off the grass" is a sufficient warning. There is not a village in the world that does not

occasionally have a burglar pass through it, but people do not on that account lock up their spoons and great coats and their coffee-pot and silver mugs, so that their friends may not use them in case they should be stolen. They know that they are safe amongst their friends and can be used with safety, and that the real remedy is to catch the burglar who is the general enemy of the public, and not make irritating rules which will annoy every friend. If you will allow me, by way of illustration I will refer to a letter I once received, which ran to this effect: "Dear Sir: I have kicked Mr. So-and-So out of my house. He was a dishonest tenant and won't pay his rent. If you will send a horse and wagon and fetch the books he has stolen from your library, you can have them." Well, this letter gave me a cold chill, and I promptly sent a man with a wagon and a big strong horse to see what I could recover, and in the course of a few hours I received 83 books, all on the subject of civil engineering. The gentleman had evidently been studying up that subject.

Mr. CRUNDEN.—The man who robbed me was a civil engineer, too; and we put him in the penitentiary, where he is now.

Mr. THOMSON.—I did not lock up my culprit. I took out a warrant for his arrest and invited him to come to the library to be arrested, but he never came. He is now residing outside of Philadelphia. The point I want to make is this: I want to show the difference between closed shelves and our system of open shelves. In the case I have mentioned I recovered 83 volumes, of which nine were taken from the Free Library, seven from the University of Pennsylvania Library, some from the Apprentice's, some from the Franklin Institute, and so on right through the city. It showed that the protection of closed shelves is just the value of the books lost, and not one cent more. The books had been taken in equal proportions from every library, and the closed shelves afforded no more protection than the open shelves. Now, I believe that all we have to say to the people is this: "This is your property, and we rely upon you to help us to protect it." One speaker has suggested that something has been done on the other side of the Atlantic from which we might take a lesson. I reply: "You may take 15 lessons in Philadelphia alone, and those you may get from the 15



libraries which form the system of the Free Library of Philadelphia."

The best protection consists of the presence of the attendants at the entrance and the exit of the library. The circulation desk in each of our libraries is placed as near to the main door as possible. Every person who wants to return a book has to go to one place and to return that book and have it marked off before he can pass into the library. Then, if he is a person familiar with books, he can go around and have 60,000 volumes from which he can make his selection. He can look at 1, 10, or 100 without troubling an assistant, and without the wearied feeling that comes over a man when he thinks he has asked too many favors. Finally, having made his selection, he has to go through another little gangway and have the book checked before he can leave the room. It is not once in four months that a person tries to get out of the building without having his book checked.

To those who say that we should have minute protection against the loss of books, and tell me, as many have said, "Why, if I had 20 books lost I would not be able to sleep for a month," I would like to mention the case of a bookseller of Philadelphia, who told me, with tears in his eyes, about three months ago: "What is to be done with people who don't know the difference between your book and their own? My store has been robbed, and I have not left it for two hours and a half, and there has been a Webster's Dictionary gone from the shelf." Moral: If it is possible for a man to make away with a Webster's Dictionary, it will not be an impossibility for him to steal a small octavo on civil engineering. The trustees of the Free Library take a practical view of the question. They ask me: "Do you lose many books?" I say: "No, I do not. I do not lose the value of one attendant's salary per annum." I take stock every year, beginning the first of May; therefore, I know whereof I am speaking. Supposing a library loses 300 or 400 books; they are nearly all books of small value; not stolen, but put away on shelves and in trunks by the readers who, out of carelessness which would not be quite criminal, keep the books and omit to return them. But what is the comparative gain to the library? It is almost incalculable. The loss is little and the gain immense. What are libraries for? They

are for the people. Public damage to a highway, a park, to a museum, to a sanitarium, or to a bath-house, will form a certain part of the annual cost; so, with an allowance for loss of books in the free library, the benefit to be gained from the free access is enormous.

Men are naturally modest and bashful. When you go in a free library you have the privilege of looking at the books and deciding which one you want. If a bashful man comes into a library and cannot look at the shelves, he has a bewildered feeling, but by an act of inspiration suddenly gasps that he wants a book by somebody named Crawford, and finds that it is out; he then asks for one by Mary Jane Holmes, and he is told this is out. He knows nothing of the great books on biography, history, and travel, and so he asks for several more flimsy but popular books, and finds they are out. A catalog is a bewildering maze to him, and after asking for several books that he can call to mind, he finds them "out," and finally grows very bashful and says, "Well, I will come back another time," and so walks into the street. If he had had a catalog he possibly would not have known how to use it usefully, and he would not have had the courage to ask the attendant to go out and help him; but the mere fact of being able to go to a shelf, see the books, handle them, take them down and look into them, enables him finally to find something that he really wants and something which will encourage him to come again and again, until he becomes a steady and regular reader and a person who is gradually developing and improving his mind.

The mere fear of the loss of three or four hundred dollars' worth of books per annum should not be allowed to stand in the way of the open-shelf system for one single minute.

W. H. BRETT. — In the Cleveland library the loss of books last year could have been covered by \$300 at the most; it was one book lost for 3000 circulated.

C. R. DUDLEY. — I am from the wild and woolly West, but I do not believe in the free and unlimited coinage of silver at any ratio, nor do I believe in free and unlimited access to shelves. I cannot see why all who discuss this question seem to touch on nothing but the loss of books. I have never heard any one say that they believed the loss of books in any library from stealing, on account of access to shelves,

was anything but a trivial matter. It seems to me that the chief loss must be caused by the extra help that must be kept in order to keep the library in good condition and to put back into their proper places the books that have been misplaced, as well as by the wear and tear that would come from the useless handling of books.

Col. WESTON FLINT. — At the Washington Public Library it is just the other way. With us, I think, free access saves at least two assistants in the library.

Mr. ELMENDORF. — It is also a great saving with us; the circulation from the open shelves saves 50 per cent. attendance at the desk. It also helps the quality of the circulation. In the open shelves about 50 per cent. of the books are fiction, and the percentage of fiction taken from that room by actual count on a strict classification is 67, while the fiction circulation from the entire library is, including school work, 56 per cent. Thus the open-shelf room shows only two per cent. more fiction circulated.

J. F. PARSONS. — In open shelves the Denver Public Library seems still to be the banner public library. Our loss last year was 955 books, but in spite of that the new board that is in charge of the consolidated library now planned for Denver has planned to have open shelves. To me the great objection to free access is not the loss of books; that can be remedied by safeguards. In our library we find that the thing to be considered is the great confusion caused from the handling of the books. Our children's room on Monday morning looks much as though a cyclone had gone through it, and I have often spent two or three hours in straightening up that part of the library. In spite of this inconvenience, however, I am a thorough believer in the utmost liberality of access.

Mr. CRUNDEN. — For those who know what they want, and those who know how to use the catalog with intelligence, the stack system is the best, as it keeps the books in their proper places, but I do not think that is any reason for keeping all the books in the stack. My plan would be to have a selection — as large as you can make it — of books where the people can go to them, and have duplicates in the stacks. I think that the open-shelf question will soon not be an open question at all, notwithstanding the loss by stealing from the shelves and the objections as to disarrangement of the books. The question of disarrangement would be a

very serious one if the public were permitted to go into the whole of the library. I have myself taken educated men into our stack and given them the privilege of going where they wanted to, cautioning them to put the books aside or be sure to put them back in the same place, and they have generally become indignant at the imputation of their inability to put the books back in the place from which taken. I have stood there, however, and watched them put the books back in the wrong places. I think the solution of the difficulty would be to have a selection of books in a stack to which no one would have access, unless in special cases, and to have a room of selected books for circulation; and then, if you want to make the plan complete, add Mr. Foster's "standard" room in addition.

After some further discussion, rising votes were taken on the following questions:

How many favor practically unrestricted access for large libraries for all books? 10.

How many favor practically unrestricted access for smaller libraries? 50 (practically unanimous).

How many are opposed to practically unrestricted access in large libraries? 30.

How many prefer free access to a selected collection of books? 48.

Mr. BRETT. — My plan, briefly stated, is this: I would give absolutely free access to a selected collection of books. I would have the rest of the library in stacks in such a way that each section of the stack would correspond to an alcove, and every one who had any occasion to go to those alcoves would have free access to the corresponding stack. Thus we have free access right through. The scholar has the whole library at his disposal. The person who is not a scholar would not need that and would not have it. In addition, of course, we recognize that there is always a certain selection of books that must be restricted. This is a practical plan, and a plan I would like to see carried out.

Adjourned at 4.45.

#### SEVENTH SESSION.

(ASSEMBLY ROOM, SWEETWATER PARK HOTEL, LITHIA SPRINGS, FRIDAY EVENING, MAY 12.)

The meeting was called to order by President LANE at 8.30.

In the absence of Mr. WHITNEY, chairman,

E. H. ANDERSON submitted the committee report on

PLACE OF NEXT MEETING,

recommending that the American Library Association accept the invitation tendered by the faculty of McGill University to meet in Montreal in 1900. The recommendation was adopted by a unanimous vote.

INVITATIONS FOR 1901.

Announcement was made that the mayor and common council of Buffalo, with the Merchants' Exchange, Library Club, directors of the Public Library, and trustees of the Grosvenor Library and the Buffalo Historical Society, united in inviting the American Library Association to hold its conference in 1901 in Buffalo; and it was *Voted*, That the thanks of the association be extended for this invitation, which will be duly considered at the next annual meeting. An invitation to Des Moines for 1903 and several other invitations were also acknowledged.

Dr. H. M. LEIPZIGER presented the resolutions passed by the

TRUSTEES' SECTION \*

and recommended their adoption.

Dr. E. J. NOLAN. — There are questions involved in these resolutions that cannot well be argued fully before this body and that make it desirable that the whole subject should be considered calmly and deliberately by another committee; therefore I move that the resolutions be referred to the executive board of the association. *Voted*.

Dr. B. C. STEINER. — I have been instructed by the Large Libraries Section to report to this body the fact that Mr. Whelpley, of the Cincinnati Public Library, is seriously ill, and it has been recommended by that section that this association, through its secretary, send him a telegram of sympathy. *Voted*.

F. M. CRUNDEN presented the revised draft submitted by the

COMMITTEE ON REVISION OF A. L. A. CONSTITUTION.

MELVIL DEWEY. — I move that before going into details or adopting the report as a whole the committee be authorized to make merely verbal changes that have no effect on the meaning of the constitution. *Voted*.

The revised draft of the constitution was then read, section by section, each section being

submitted to criticism or amendment and voted upon separately. It was also *Voted*, That all matter in the old constitution not in the amended sections adopted be stricken out.

The constitution as finally adopted is as follows:

*Object.*

§ 1. The object of the American Library Association shall be to promote the welfare of libraries in America.

*Membership.*

§ 2. *Members and fellows.* Any person or institution engaged in library work may become a member or fellow by paying the annual dues, and others after election by the executive board.

§ 3. *Honorary members and fellows.* On nomination of the council, honorary members may be elected by unanimous vote at any meeting of the association.

§ 4. *Life members and fellows.* Any individual member may become a life member, exempt from dues, by paying \$25. On payment of \$100 any individual member may become a life fellow and any institution a perpetual member. An individual life member may become a life fellow on payment of \$75.

*Endowment Fund.*

§ 5. All receipts from life and perpetual memberships and life fellowships, and all gifts for endowment purposes, shall constitute an endowment fund, which shall be invested, and the principal kept forever inviolate. The interest shall be expended as the council may direct. The endowment fund shall be in the custody of three trustees, one of whom shall be elected by ballot at each annual meeting, to hold office for three years from the date of his election and until his successor shall be elected. No money from the endowment fund shall be invested or expended except on check signed by a majority of the trustees.

*Management.*

§ 6. The business of the association shall be entrusted to the executive board and the council. But the association may, by a three-fourths vote of those present and voting, take direct action, or revise the action of the executive board or council, or give them mandatory instructions.

*Officers and Committees.*

§ 7. The officers of the association shall be a president, first and second vice-presidents, a secretary, a recorder, and a treasurer, to be elected by ballot at the annual meeting of the association, and to hold office until the adjournment of the meeting at which their successors are elected. These officers, together with the president for the preceding term, shall constitute an executive board, and they shall also serve as officers of the executive board and of the council.

\* See p. 160.

§ 8. *President and Vice-presidents.* The president shall be the representative head of the association. In case of his death, resignation, or inability to serve, the ranking vice-president shall become president.

§ 9. *Secretary.* The secretary, subject to the general authority of the president and of the executive board, shall be the active executive officer. He shall be elected first for one year, and upon re-election for a term of three years, and shall have such salary as the council may determine.

§ 10. *Recorder.* The recorder shall keep a record of the attendance and proceedings at each meeting of the association, council or executive board.

§ 11. *Treasurer.* The treasurer shall record all receipts and disbursements, collect dues, pay bills on written order of two members of the finance committee, and make an annual report to the association.

§ 12. *Executive board.* The executive board shall administer the business affairs of the association, except those entrusted to the council; and it shall have power, in intervals between meetings of the association or of the council, to act on all matters on which those members present at a meeting reach unanimous agreement. The executive board shall appoint from the membership of the association a finance committee of three, and may appoint other committees, assistant officers, and reporters on special subjects. It shall have authority to arrange the program for the annual meeting and to decide upon the presentation and printing of papers and reports.

§ 13. *Finance committee.* The finance committee shall prepare annual and supplementary budgets, within which appropriations shall be made by the executive board. It shall audit bills and give orders on the treasurer for payment; and no expense shall be incurred on behalf of the association by any officer or committee in excess of the authorized appropriation.

§ 14. *Votes by correspondence.* Approval in writing by every member of the council or of a board or committee shall have the force of a vote.

#### *Council.*

§ 15. *Members and votes.* The council shall consist of the executive board and 25 members elected by the association, five each year, to hold office for five years.

§ 16. *Meetings.* The council shall meet at the place of meeting of the association, immediately prior to the annual meeting of the association, and immediately prior to the final session thereof, and also between meetings of the association on call of the executive board or of a majority of the councillors.

§ 17. *Duties.* The council shall adopt by-laws for the association. It shall nominate officers and trustees of the endowment fund, and shall include on a printed ballot other nominations filed with the secretary by five members

of the association 24 hours before the election. It may, by a two-thirds vote, establish sections of the association. It may promulgate recommendations of the association relating to library matters by a two-thirds vote of the council, and no resolutions except votes of thanks and on local arrangements shall be otherwise promulgated.

#### *Publishing Board.*

§ 18. The publishing board shall consist of five members appointed by the executive board for terms of not more than three years. Its object shall be to secure the preparation and publication of such catalogs, indexes, and other bibliographic and library aids as it may approve.

§ 19. The publishing board shall annually appoint its chairman, secretary, and treasurer.

§ 20. No moneys shall be paid by the treasurer and no work shall be undertaken except by vote of a majority of the whole board.

§ 21. The treasury of the publishing board shall be entirely distinct from that of the association, and the association shall not be liable for any debts incurred by the publishing board. With the approval of the finance committee, money may be appropriated by the executive board from the treasury of the association for the running expenses of the publishing board.

§ 22. The publishing board shall report in print at each annual meeting of the association.

#### *Meetings.*

§ 23. *Annual meetings.* There shall be an annual meeting of the association at such place and time as may be determined by the council.

§ 24. *Special meetings.* Special meetings of the association may be called by the executive board, and shall be called by the president on request of 20 members of the association. At least one month's notice shall be given, and only business specified in the call shall be transacted.

§ 25. *Quorum.* Forty members shall constitute a quorum.

#### *Amendments and By-laws.*

§ 26. *Amendments.* This constitution may be amended by a three-fourths vote of those present and voting at two successive meetings of the association, provided that notice of the amendments in their final form be sent to each member of the association at least one month before its final adoption.

§ 27. *By-laws.* Any by-law may be suspended by a three-fourths vote of those present and voting at any meeting of the association or council.

During the prolonged discussion of the constitution the meeting adjourned from the assembly room to one of the small parlors of the hotel, where the session was finally concluded. After the adoption of the amended constitution, it was *Voted*, That the Committee on Revision of A. L. A. Constitution be continued until it

report to the executive board a final draft of the amendments to the constitution; that the executive board be instructed to submit the amendments as reported to it by the committee to competent legal authority in the commonwealth of Massachusetts; and that the thanks of the association be extended to the committee for its labors.

F. M. CRUNDEN presented the

#### REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON RESOLUTIONS.

The American Library Association esteems it a privilege to have held its 21st annual meeting in the beautiful and hospitable city of Atlanta, and especially at a time so auspicious for the city and for the progress of library interests in the south. The meeting is notable as the first A. L. A. conference in the south, and is further distinguished by the social cordiality and personal friendliness of our hosts. It is, therefore,

*Resolved*, That the thanks of the association be tendered to the authorities and citizens of Atlanta for their generous welcome; to the reception committee and its chairman, Mr. T. H. Martin, for their unfailing courtesy as well as for the enjoyable entertainments provided by them.

*Resolved*, That thanks be also tendered to the trustees of the Young Men's Library Association; to the officers and members of the Capital City Club; to the Woman's Club of Atlanta; the Cold Spring 'Cue Club; the Piedmont Driving Club; and to his honor, the mayor, and all those who so efficiently co-operated in the public meeting at the opera house.

The association feels especially indebted to the press of Atlanta for the full and sympathetic reports of the proceedings of the conference.

Recognizing that to the tact of Miss Anne

Wallace the Atlanta meeting is primarily due, the association desires to convey to her the special assurance of its gratitude, and to assure her that, while she has given freely of her time and energy to secure the success of this meeting, she may rely on the sympathy and interest of her associates in all that concerns her official work and her individual happiness.

We depart from Atlanta with the pleasantest recollections and with the best wishes for the continued prosperity of the noble city, the elevation of its educational interests and the welfare of its gracious people.

The report was adopted by a rising vote.

The resolution upon

#### APPOINTMENT OF LIBRARIAN OF CONGRESS

was also submitted for action, and it was

*Voted*, That the American Library Association desires to record its appreciation of the principle recognized by the President of the United States in his selection of a Librarian of Congress, that fitness, training and experience, should determine the choice of those charged with the administration of libraries.

Adjournment was taken at 12.35 a.m.

What might, perhaps, be called the final session of the conference was held in Washington, Wednesday, May 17, when the American Library Association was entertained at luncheon by the officers and staff of the Library of Congress. President Lane presided, short addresses were made by Mr. Spofford, Mr. Thomson, and others, and amid hospitality and good-will the 21st general conference of the American Library Association was declared adjourned.

## LARGE LIBRARIES SECTION.

THIS section held two sessions, at the Kimball House and Lithia Springs respectively, to consider phase of *Library Organization* and *Library Extension*, as applicable to the work of large libraries. Both sessions were well attended and proved interesting and stimulating.

#### FIRST SESSION.

(KIMBALL HOUSE, THURSDAY EVENING,  
MAY 11.)

The meeting was called to order by W. H. BRETT, chairman, and, in the absence of Dr. Steiner, Miss LINDA A. EASTMAN was appointed secretary *pro tem*.

The general subject of *Library Organization* was opened with an address by JOHN THOMSON on

#### THE LIBRARIAN.

JOHN THOMSON.—I have been asked to open a discussion the purpose of which is stated on the program.

A sermon should be brief and pointed. That it be a good sermon it should have a text. My text is set forth in the words "The librarian, his title, his relation to the board, the library force, and the public."

My text dictates to me that I am to speak on five topics; so, firstly, as to the librarian. I take

## SIXTH SESSION.

(ASSEMBLY ROOM, SWEETWATER PARK HOTEL,  
LITHIA SPRINGS, FRIDAY AFTERNOON, MAY 12.)

The meeting was called to order at 3.10 p. m. by President LANE, who announced that the session would be devoted to a

DISCUSSION OF OPEN SHELVES IN THE LIGHT OF  
ACTUAL EXPERIENCE.

to be opened by W. H. BRETT.

W. H. BRETT.\*—Ten years ago the largest and most important public library in which free access to the shelves was permitted was that at Pawtucket, Rhode Island, a library of about 37,000 volumes in a city of 11,000 population, circulating less than 50,000 annually. This, so far as I am informed, was really the pioneer of open shelves among free libraries. Now at least four of the large city libraries have complete free access to their circulating departments, and several others have partial access—that is, access to certain collections, as, for instance, the books for children. Among the libraries having absolutely unrestricted access is the youngest, and, measured by the work accomplished with the resources available, the greatest of our public libraries, the library which is not only issuing more books annually for home use than any other library in the world, but has a circulation larger in proportion to the number of volumes available, and is issuing books at a lower cost per volume than the average of the larger libraries. Such an illustration of the value of freedom of method in promoting the use and lessening the expense of the public library, is worth a volume of theory and argument.

In England rapid progress has been made within a few years in the direction of greater freedom. Probably the most weighty contribution which has been made to the literature of this subject is the "Account of the safeguarded open access system in public lending libraries," a brochure recently prepared and issued by the librarians of 12 libraries in various parts of England having the system in operation. They append statistics of the libraries under their charge which show that circulation increases under the operation of the access plan, and support fully the claims they make for it. The libraries reporting were opened at various

times from 1893 to 1898, the first being that at Clerkenwell, London, whose librarian, Mr. Brown, visited America in 1893, studied the methods of American libraries, and attended the Chicago meeting.

The most conclusive treatment of the economic advantages or disadvantages of free access may be found in the reports of those libraries in which free access is permitted—the figures there given are convincing.

Indeed, I am inclined to take the position that no argument for open shelves is necessary—that the burden of proof rests with those who would restrict. We have in the public library the people's books, paid for by their money, and deposited in libraries for their use. This use should not be restricted in any way which is not clearly necessary to guard the people's interests. It is not, therefore, for the free library to defend its position; it is rather for the library which bars out the people from the books to defend itself—to give a reason for every hampering regulation which it enforces, every restriction which it imposes, every barrier it places between the people and their own books.

The economic side of this question may be, as I have said, readily settled by statistics, and we have now enough for the purpose. There is, however, the consideration of the educational value of direct access to the books rather than merely to the catalog, that, although we all recognize it, is not expressed in figures.

I shall not attempt, however, at this time to consider this most important phase of the question. My contribution to this discussion is simply to direct to the value of arrangement in an open library as a means of promoting the use of the better books. This applies throughout the library, but most effectually in the children's room and in the fiction department.

For an illustration of what I mean, I need not go further than the current number of the *Library Journal*. Take the delightful paper in which the work in the children's room at the Newark library is described, and consider for a moment whether such a work would be possible in any but an open library, and how much it may be aided by an arrangement which makes prominent the desirable books. The writer, in her work, is dealing with the problem of interesting what she aptly terms the "Ellis boy and the Elsie girl" in better books. She finds that more

\* Mr. Brett's paper is given in condensed form.

should be the title of the librarian is so small that I am confident I have imparted subject matter for discussion which may be very useful, but is scarcely strictly relevant.

Now, the third point, What should be the relation of the librarian to his board? I take it this is one of the most serious that can be raised. The librarian who is worthy of his position must earn the confidence of his board by carrying out the policy dictated by the governing body, faithfully and in such a manner as will make the usefulness of the library develop. I think it is a good plan that he should be present at every meeting of the board and every meeting of the committees. The first and most cardinal point of usefulness of a librarian to his board is that he should be familiar with the views of his president, vice-president and his board, so that the objects that they have at heart may be those which he will endeavor to carry out. He will, in this way, be able to save the board and committees the consideration of and adjudication upon many questions which would otherwise grow into important matters and involve serious discussion. It all comes round to what I said before—that the board must be responsible for all matters of policy, but that the librarian must be the executive officer, trusted by his board and earning that trust by loyal and faithful execution of their decisions.

The fourth consideration—What should be the attitude of the librarian towards his library force?—seems to me easily reduced to heads which will admit of but little discussion. His business is to hold his duty sacred and to require from the employees faithful, careful, and loyal service. Loyalty of the employees towards the librarian can be obtained if he will give fair consideration to their labors and seek their confidence. Troubles more or less serious will arise from time to time in the conduct of business in every large institution, and if, when trouble arises between an assistant and the public, the librarian will look into the matter, give it careful consideration, point out how the trouble might have been avoided; or, if the assistant is in the right, boldly support him, or her, *that* librarian is going to win the affection of the employees. He will win loyalty and he will insure, as no other method will insure, faithful good work and prosperity for the library of which he is in charge.

The fifth point seems to me almost too wide for discussion, or so simple that it is undiscussable. Avoid multiplicity of rules. If one thing causes more trouble in clubs and institutions than another, it is the perpetual discussion and argument over rules. Some institutions seem to call more meetings to make, alter, remake and re-alter by-laws than would carry on the government of a nation. No library need have more rules than those which appear upon the top of every book slip. When a reader says "What is the rule of the library?" upon some point, inquire "What is your trouble?" Don't begin to talk about rules and by-laws; inquire "What is the matter?" Give the point reasonable and fair consideration and in 999 cases out of 1000 the decision of the librarian will be accepted as probably being founded on experience and the necessity of good administration. It is an every-day experience, and the librarian's decision will be accepted and accepted cheerfully.

We have a rule that is distasteful to the mind of some persons in our own city, Philadelphia. The rule is, "Hats must not be worn in the library." A lawyer came in and sat down with his hat on. The janitor spoke to him, and then came to me and said, "What shall I do?" I went to the reader and said, "The rule of the library is to take your hat off." "And I inform you," said he, "that I will not take my hat off." I said, "I ask you as a gentleman to take your hat off, sir." He responded, "I beg to inform you, sir, as a gentleman, that I will not take my hat off." The request and the answer passed about eight times, then he said, "What are you going to do about it?" I said, "Sir, I am going to my office to resume my work." He left in high dudgeon; in three days he came back to the library and sat there with his hat off. I might have made a great fuss about it; I was at liberty to require obedience to the rule. What should I have gained by persistency?

I think, therefore, in summing up my topics for discussion, I would say that the librarian should always be present with the trustees in their meetings and he should try to earn their confidence as to the present working of the library and as to its future development. If he will support his force with kind assistance when trouble arises, and if he will not put on airs with the public, I think that you will find that the

librarian, his force and the public will be a happy family.

W. T. PEOPLES. — Is it not the duty of the head of the library to say how the library shall be carried on?

Mr. THOMSON. — Undoubtedly.

Mr. PEOPLES. — Unless he knows something about the cataloging, how is he to know that it is attended to?

Mr. THOMSON. — I said all details should be left to the heads of departments. A banker does not make entries on his ledgers. Having settled upon a system of cataloging and classification, then the heads of departments will follow the rules, whether they be the rules of the Decimal classification or the British Museum or what not. When important questions arise, say as to a certain classification, then the librarian will be called upon to exercise the right of final decision. I thought my expressions were clear that in the matter of general details I do not think the librarian is usefully occupied in reading over cards and checking off things to see if they are correct. When the Free Library of Philadelphia was first opened I necessarily spent hours and hours every day upon matters of this kind. I found that I could be much more usefully employed as things progressed. The heads of departments were perfectly competent to do the work, and the questions submitted to me became fewer and fewer, because assistants, after a while, will only bring up for discussion difficult points, and then with one or two of the heads the matter can be discussed and a proper conclusion speedily arrived at.

Dr. G. W. PECKHAM. — There is a word or two I should like to offer in relation to one matter brought up in the discussion. There is a point connected with the theoretical relations between the librarian of a large institution and the board of trustees of that institution; in other words, the ideal position that should be common ground between the two parts of the organization. It seems to me that we should aim to establish the fact that there are certain professional duties that are clearly within the province of the librarian as such, and so far as we are able, to impress upon any governing board of trustees that they should establish proper and dignified relations with the librarian who is to carry out the work. There are things that a clerk can do, but I take it, when

any board of trustees employs a librarian it employs a professional expert and not a clerk. Then there are bounds that the librarian should never overstep. He should not modify the general policy as laid down by the governing board. He should carry out that policy with all the loyalty and intelligence that he may possess; and on the other hand, it should be just as impossible for the board of trustees, after having laid down a general policy, to come within the domain of the librarian to act as executive officers, either as a whole, or in their individual capacity. Many trustees, feeling that they are vested with the governing power of the board, have the bad habit of attempting as individuals to come in and perform executive duties that should be handed over to the librarian.

There is, in my mind, a fundamental and philosophical distinction between the work performed by the governing board and the work performed by the man entrusted with the carrying out of its policy, and I believe that a very large part of the difficulties found in libraries or in museums or in public school systems come from the overlooking of that fundamental difference between the power lodged in the board to outline the general policy and the performance of certain executive duties. I agree with almost everything that the former speaker has said, but I think he was scarcely emphatic enough when he insisted that the librarian should attend all meetings of the board of trustees. If the board of trustees be unrepresented on its professional side by our presence how can it discuss the questions coming up at every meeting in relation to the internal management of the library? The question of the relation of the librarian to the board has become of vital importance. After many years of experience I may say that in almost all instances the fundamental difference between the legislative authority and the executive is lost sight of, although to this general statement the Milwaukee Public Library is a happy exception. In Bryce's "American Commonwealth" there is an able discussion of this very point. The cause of the difficulties is the point we ought to emphasize, and the proper adjustment of these relations is the ideal toward which we are all striving.

BENJAMIN WYCHE. — I do not believe in having rules strung along the walls, but I would



like very much to know how librarians prevent college students, for instance, violating the rules without having them printed.

Mr. THOMSON.—There is nothing I intended to have made more positive than what Mr. Peckham said upon this subject. The board must settle all matters of policy, and no executive officer would be worth retaining in any position unless he faithfully and loyally carried out such policy. As to rules, I think that the rules that are indispensable can be required to be observed in the library, and those which must be known by the readers can be limited to the few rules which are printed at the heads of the slips or tickets, or whatever they are called. They are merely how long you can keep a book, what are the penalties for keeping books over time, what are the penalties for loss, or for defacing, or injuring the borrowed volumes. Of course such rules as are enforceable statutory rules must be printed and hung up in conspicuous parts of the library, and that is the only view I wish to lay down in the remarks I have made.

Mr. PROPLES.—I think the users of libraries should know all the rules. When a man comes into the reading-room, and the rules require he should take his hat off, if he did not take his hat off he should get out. It is a rule in my library, and I insist on its being obeyed. I would have required the person mentioned by Mr. Thomson to have left the library, or to have taken off his hat.

Mr. THOMSON.—I think this matter is one in which different experiences will lead to different methods. The rule is clear in our library, and is placed upon the walls in a proper and conspicuous manner. The person I named was out of temper and perfectly willing to make trouble. Where should I have benefited the library by driving the matter to an unpleasant issue? He is a good friend of the library now, and he uses it regularly and continually. Why should I have turned him into an enemy, which I could easily have done?

Dr. PECKHAM.—There is one point I wish to call attention to. I believe that any librarian who proceeds to execute the law by ejecting a man for disorderly conduct without due notice by printed rules renders himself open to an action at law; and I have been advised by corporation council that it is absolutely necessary, when you eject a man, that you first notify him

of the existence of those rules; otherwise you are a trespasser. That is a reason for calling attention to the rules.

Dr. BILLINGS.—I do not think there is any question as to the necessity for having certain rules, particularly in reference libraries and reading-rooms. It is, however, quite sufficient that the rules should be on the books, or on the slips, or in such places that the readers' attention should be called to them. In the reading-room and reference department there must be certain rules, such as to make no noise and the like, and those rules must be posted and printed for the reason stated by Dr. Peckham. It is impossible to bring the law to bear to expel a person unless you are able to submit evidence that there had been such rules, and that they had been called to the attention of the person; and those rules must be made by the trustees, and not by the librarian, and must be announced as the rules of the trustees.

With regard to the title of "Librarian," I do not think it amounts to very much whether the chief officer is called librarian, or director, or superintendent; the title amounts to very little indeed.

On the question of rules, I believe the fewer rules the better. I do not believe in covering a bulletin board with many directions, warnings, etc., because it seems vexatious and annoying, and is generally, I think, bad policy. I question very much the desirability of a rule that hats must be taken off. I have never made such a rule, yet generally readers do take their hats off. I do forbid the laying of overcoats, etc., on the library tables, because our tables are crowded, and to do that prevents the use of the tables by others.

Dr. J. K. HOSMER read a paper on

THE ASSISTANT LIBRARIAN.

(See p. 54.)

E. H. ANDERSON spoke on

DEPARTMENT ORGANIZATION.

Mr. ANDERSON.—I object to calling this a paper. I was notified that I was to open the discussion in an informal manner. I have no cut-and-dried scheme of department organization. Even if I had I think it should be put to soak to give it some elasticity. What I mean is, if it were possible to evolve anything like an ideal scheme of department organization, it

would have to be stretched and twisted to meet the local conditions of the library to which it was applied.

It seems to me that the departmental organization of a library should differ little from that of any large commercial house. It is purely a business arrangement. I can see no reason why the technical part of the work should interfere with the business arrangement of it. We might have logical schemes, elaborating the relations of one department with another, etc., but when we came to apply them to the particular case in hand a great many changes would have to be made. The *personnel* of the department heads has a great deal to do with the work to be assigned to those departments. Moreover, in some cases the work in one department overlaps that of another. In our own library, for instance, we have a department for work with children. The head of that department, besides her duties at the central library, supervises the work in the children's rooms of three branch libraries. There is some overlapping of authority in the children's rooms of these branches, but so far we have had no difficulty, because a sufficient amount of tact between the heads of the departments interested seems to prevent friction.

As to the responsibility of the heads of departments, I should say it should be very great; but this must depend upon the personal fitness of the particular head. If the librarian is so fortunate as to have a very competent head for a department, one in whom he has full confidence, manifestly he can give to that head more responsibility than to another who is not so competent. I should say that the responsibility of the heads of departments in a library should be similar to that of like positions in any commercial establishment.

In speaking of the relation of the heads of departments to the librarian, I do not wish to encroach upon Mr. Thomson's subject. These relations are somewhat indefinite. The chief executive should, of course, keep in touch with the heads of departments, and should, I think, hold department meetings at regular intervals. These heads should constitute the librarian's cabinet, as it were, and should always be consulted about any changes or improvements in their respective departments. If any new move is contemplated, if any new problems have arisen, the librarian should confer with

the heads of the departments interested. Furthermore, the chief executive can keep in closer touch with the heads of departments if he requires from them regular written reports—say monthly reports (and I do not think that would be too often). In this way the librarian can get an insight into the workings of the departments, find out what the heads are trying to do in their various lines, and have time to think over their suggestions; and, what is equally important, the fact that they have these reports to prepare acts as a stimulus and induces them to take more interest in their work than they otherwise would.

I will roughly sketch an outline of departmental organization, omitting the executive department, because Mr. Thomson has treated that very fully, and will mention the departments as they occur to me, chiefly as we use them in our library. I have compared notes with some other librarians and find they have some departments we have not, and *vice versa*. It is not necessary to speak of the ordinary work of each department when the name of the department sufficiently indicates the work assigned to it.

*Order department.* I find in some libraries the accession work is done by the order department, and in others by the catalog department. In our own library this work is done by the order department. But the conditions in other libraries might be such that this work could be done more conveniently by the catalog department. With a very competent person at the head of the order department a great deal more work can be given to him than is ordinarily done. For instance, certain members of our staff are required to read certain critical journals. We subscribe for these journals for the members of the staff, and they are sent to their homes. They report to the order department the books they have found reviewed, and give citations to the journal, date and page. These are sorted and weeded out, to some extent, by the head of the order department, and then they come to the librarian, to be edited before the order is placed. If the head of this department is a competent man or woman, you can readily see that a great deal of arduous and important work is taken off the shoulders of the chief executive, a thing much to be desired.

*Catalog department.* In some large libraries there is a shelf department distinct from the

catalog department. It is a question whether the work of the shelf department might not be included in that of the catalog department. Practically we have it so included, but I imagine the time may come when we shall have to make them separate departments.

*Reference department.* This requires no special comment. I am merely opening the discussion, and if any one cares to pursue what may be suggested by my remarks the opportunity will be given in a few moments.

*Loan department.* With us the loan department includes the registration. Ours is a new library, and the time will come when we shall find it necessary to make a special department for registration, but we have not reached that point yet.

*Periodical or Magazine department.* To this department should belong the care and oversight of the rooms in which the current periodicals and magazines are kept, the bulletining of, and thereby calling attention to, special articles, etc. To this department also I should assign the supervision of the newspaper room.

Then we have what seems to me to be a department of very great importance, and one upon which we are just now laying special emphasis in our own library—the *Children's department*. The time has come for it, and I believe that most of the large libraries are now incorporating what is practically a children's department in their schemes of organization. We have a children's room at the central library and in each of the branches; in fact, we have better rooms at the branches than at the central library. Our system of home libraries and our work with the schools are also under the direction of the head of this department.

*Mechanical department.* Here is another illustration of the way local conditions affect organization. At the Boston Public Library, as the head of the mechanical department, they have a chief engineer. We have no such department or officer in our library organization. We have four institutions housed in one building, and the superintendent of buildings has charge of the mechanical work for the entire building and branches. Fortunately for me I have nothing to do with the heating, lighting, cleaning, or repair of the buildings, and I do not want to have anything to do with these things so long as they are satisfactorily done.

*Printing department.* So far as I know there

are only three libraries in this country that have their own printing departments. It is a question whether it is necessary to have such a department. It is necessary in Pittsburgh, because the library is situated so far from the principal printing offices that it is necessary for us to have our own linotype outfit for printing catalog cards, monthly bulletins, etc.

*Bindery.* So large an institution as the Chicago Public Library has no bindery of its own; but there are good binderies so near the library as to make it unnecessary. There is no bindery near our library. We get our binding done better and cheaper by sending it to Boston. Last summer I was told at the British Museum that they had no bindery of their own, but provided quarters in their building for a binder who did their work. I think they would prefer to run their own bindery; but by the present arrangement they avoid complication with the binders' union. I know of several libraries where a bindery is managed as a part of the institution. I can imagine that sometimes that might not work well. Is it more economical to do your own binding or to have it done?

*Branches and Delivery stations.* In a large library I think the head of this department should be the supervisor of branches. Of course a good deal of responsibility would devolve upon him, and a great deal of important work be done through him.

Adjournment was then taken.

## SECOND SESSION.

(SWEETWATER PARK HOTEL, LITHIA SPRINGS, FRIDAY AFTERNOON, MAY 12.)

The session was called to order at 5 p.m. by the chairman, Mr. BRETT. Dr. B. C. STEINER acted as secretary. It was announced that the subject of *Library Organization* would be continued.

H. L. ELMENDORF spoke on

### ASSISTANTS.

Mr. ELMENDORF.—The importance of the subject of assistants can hardly be overstated. Given the wisest board, the ablest administration, the most perfect departmental divisions, the whole system will inevitably break down unless it is supported by an intelligent, courteous, able-bodied, and well-instructed corps of assistants.

I wish first to call your attention to the great need of improvement in desk service. We are too apt, I think, to assign the new girl, the inexperienced assistant, to wait upon the desk and to give the library force the idea that waiting upon the public is the primary department of the library. One of my best assistants, if you will pardon a personal illustration, on a busy afternoon had a headache, and I heard her say: "I am very glad I have nothing more intellectual to do than to wait on the desk." The fact that this was one of our very good girls opened my eyes to the fact that the importance of this work was not properly appreciated. The desire to get away from the circulating department into cataloging, from the direct helping of people to the mechanical work, seems almost universal. I believe that there is good reason for this in our present system, and that the fault lies with the administration and not with the assistants. Our aim should be to educate our assistants to value the actual usefulness of the library and the personal application of its benefits above the mere preparation of tools to make it useful: to care for people more than problems. In order to effect this improvement, which I am sure we all desire, I suggest three things:

(1) *Better pay for desk assistants.* We are absolutely dependent on good work at the delivery counter for success with the public, and good work should receive the encouragement of good pay. One reason our good assistants want to catalog books is because that work is better paid.

(2) *Promote to heads of departments from the desk force*—that is, from those who naturally have the best knowledge of the general administration of the library.

(3) *Personally encourage the desk assistants,* magnify their work, and let them know that you realize that the success or failure of the library is in their hands. This personal encouragement, I think, should be given in a general way, by the passing word of interest, and also by more formal personal talks with the individual assistant. It is very helpful to call an assistant, who is doing well, to the office for conversation on library work.

Mr. Anderson spoke last evening on the subject of departments. I wish to add a few words to his remarks. Similar relations should exist between the chief librarian and the heads

of the departments to those between the board of directors and the librarian; that is, responsibility should be imposed and results required, and not only required but formally reported. The requiring of a written report from the head of each department will not only help the librarian, but aid the department head in the doing of the work. I have heard the objection: "I can do the work, but I can't tell about it." This should not be accepted. A person may be a good worker with their own hands, but I do not think they are competent to direct the work of others unless they can clearly, concisely, and accurately write a report of it. I find it very helpful to have an annual meeting of the heads of departments, similar to the annual meeting of the board of directors, at which the department reports are read, discussed, and handed in.

Commendation and encouragement may well come from the librarian; reproof and correction should be left entirely to department heads.

The staff should have an opportunity of seeing the new books, especially in the department of fiction; and for this purpose I should advise, wherever practicable, that at least one copy of new books, certainly the more important ones, be retained for a time for the exclusive use of the assistants. This plan has been tried in the Buffalo Public Library with good results. The staff is not allowed to monopolize a new book, and the public is not allowed to deprive the staff of its own copy.

A MEMBER. — You mean that you allow the staff to take them home?

Mr. ELMENDORF. — Yes, the head of the circulating department regulates how long they may be kept, and as quickly as possible the new book is passed around among them all. The same plan is followed with literary periodicals. The staff should not be dependent upon the copy taken for general library use. There is an advantage in having periodicals for the assistants, and they should be encouraged to read them. This is particularly applicable to those engaged in work with the children. If assistants in the children's room keep posted on the new books for children, it adds greatly to the attraction of their part of the library.

A word in regard to salaries. In my opinion time service should have some weight irrespective of anything else, except as to whether a person is fit to remain or not. Certain encour-

agement should be given for length of service, but only for a very limited amount, perhaps not higher than \$35.

A MEMBER. — What do you mean by time service and a limit of \$35?

Mr. ELMENDORF. — Say that an assistant entered the library at \$30 a month, at the end of six months she should have \$32.50 a month without examination or promotion, that is if she showed fitness for the work — at the end of a year, in the same way, \$35.

A MEMBER. — In other words, you would make \$35 the maximum of the lowest grade?

Mr. ELMENDORF. — Yes, if they are graded. I believe most heartily in entrance examinations. I do not, however, believe that promotions should be made only upon the result of examinations. Examinations for promotion are often helpful, especially in case two or more are thought to be equally fitted for the place in question. As a general thing, however, the head of a department can tell better from daily observation who is best fitted for a position than from any information that could be gained from an examination paper. Examinations should be made to help to secure the best person for the position, and should not be obligatory, because they might hamper the work and embarrass the management.

Miss E. C. DOREN read a paper on

#### STATISTICS AND REPORTS.

(See p. 57.)

The subject of *Library Extension* was opened by Miss L. E. STEARNS, who spoke on

#### LIBRARY EXTENSION IN SCHOOLS.\*

F. M. CRUNDEN spoke briefly on

#### LIBRARY STATIONS.

My idea of the ideal system for a public library would be to have a branch about as often as we now have a public school, so that no one would have to go over a mile to reach the library, and then I would supplement the branches with stations, as we have them in St. Louis to fill in with. We have in St. Louis 37

stations, through which we are now circulating about one-third of our total home issue, and the proportion is extensively increasing. The total cost of that circulation is simply the hire of two wagons. We do not pay anything to the station keepers. I do not put this plan forward as an ideal one, but we think it is better for us to have 37 stations for nothing than to have seven stations and pay for them. I consider the station, however, as an intermediate stage before getting the branch. The branch is costly; you must pay rent and salaries; whereas with a station you can get along with nothing but the cost of a delivery wagon and perhaps a small sum paid to the keeper. We do not have a delivery every day to all of these stations. Of the 37 stations about 10 have daily deliveries, and the others have two or three deliveries a week. Of course we have to do extra work at the library to make up for the unpaid assistance we get from the stations. It makes the work with us all the harder.

A MEMBER. — Under this plan, do you have station keepers as much under your authority as you would like to have them?

Mr. CRUNDEN. — No, of course we cannot have that with voluntary service. We cannot make the same requirements of these men as we could if they were paid; but you can see what it would cost to pay even a small sum: 37 stations, at even five dollars a month, would be nearly \$200 — upwards of \$2500 a year.

The subject of

#### BRANCHES IN THE COUNTRY LIBRARY

was to have been presented by Dr. A. W. WHELPLEY, who was absent owing to serious illness. On motion of Col. FLINT, a vote of sympathy for Mr. Whelpley was passed and the secretary was instructed to communicate the same to the next general session of the association for action.

It was *Voted*, That the executive board be recommended to appoint officers for the Large Libraries Section for the ensuing year as follows: W. H. Brett, chairman; Dr. B. C. Steiner, secretary. Adjourned.

\* Miss Stearns' paper was not furnished for publication.

## COLLEGE AND REFERENCE SECTION.\*

THE College Section of the A. L. A. held two sessions, on May 9 and 10 respectively, devoted to questions met with in *College and Reference Work*.

## FIRST SESSION.

(KIMBALL HOUSE, TUESDAY AFTERNOON, MAY 9.)

The meeting was called to order by Dr. E. C. RICHARDSON, chairman, at 3.15 p.m.

MISS OLIVE JONES read a paper on

CLASSIFICATION FOR COLLEGE LIBRARIES.

(See p. 36.)

MELVIL DEWEY spoke on the

SUITABILITY OF THE DECIMAL CLASSIFICATION.†

He said, in part, that he had no personal interest in the classification which people persisted in calling by his name. His interest in it was as a matter of co-operation, and because 25 years' experience had proved it to be the most effective labor-saving tool for libraries. The criticisms made upon it were based on a total misapprehension of the proper aim of a practical classification. It was demonstrable that it was wholly impracticable to have a library classification represent the best philosophical statement of the interrelations of human knowledge up to date. Every year would require modifications and changes in such a statement, while the very nature of a library classification made it necessary to use it for a considerable period, as the expense and confusion of change would be prohibitive. The Decimal classification had won its way all over the civilized world, not only from its philosophic merits, but because it was recognized as a sort of intellectual system of pigeon-holes conveniently arranged and numbered, so that the librarian and his assistants and their successors could, for a series of years, put a book or pamphlet on the same subject into the same pigeon-hole, and readers and their successors could readily go to that same

pigeon-hole when they wished to see the material on that subject. This was 99 per cent. of the proper work of a classification, and the experience of intelligent and sympathetic users had in hundreds of cases proved the efficiency and economy of the Decimal system. Criticisms were inevitable on any method, but they had no force with intelligent men if they came from people who lacked either sympathy for or full knowledge of the system. It was like an eloquent demonstration from one or more men of the impracticability of riding a bicycle because one had tried it and found it could not be done. Such statements, in the face of common experience, have no effect in shaking the confidence of intelligent people in the merit of the machine. They simply show that the individual concerned has some peculiarity that prevents his utilizing the mechanism.

C. A. CUTTER followed with a presentation of the

SUITABILITY OF THE EXPANSIVE CLASSIFICATION.

(See p. 41.)

There was a general discussion participated in by Messrs. Lane, Fletcher, Peckham, Currier, Andrews, Bullard, Mann, Dewey, and Richardson.

MR. FLETCHER said: I am unwilling to detain you in this close room, but I would like an opportunity to say an earnest word in support of the idea presented by Miss Jones that a new classification is needed especially adapted to college libraries. At the same time it seems to me that we have almost what is thus needed in the classification of the University of California, which is in print and available, I suppose, to those who might like to procure copies.

I cannot feel that the supporters of the Decimal and Expansive systems have made good their case as to the suitability of either of those systems. In fact, my principal objection to them is suggested in my careless misreading of the program when I first glanced at it; for I thought their thesis was stated as the "stability" of their systems.

The instability of these systems, or of any system calculated to be followed with close adherence, is the one great difficulty. In the

\* The report of the sessions of this section is prepared from notes kindly furnished by Mr. G. T. Little.

† As Mr. Dewey's remarks were not furnished in shape for publication, it is possible to give only an outline of his argument.

nature of things the classification or arrangement of a library is subject to fluctuation, and the rigidity imparted by such a scheme as the Decimal, with whatever changes can be made consistently with its principle, makes it quite unsuited to the needs of a growing library in which there is a demand, as there may not be in a public circulating library, for real thorough-going classification kept abreast with the progress of knowledge.

Apologizing for any apparent harshness in the expression, I can but look upon these systems as a disease which the library world is passing through, as children pass through the measles. We have had them with us for a good while; fortunately for the Expansive system, as shown by its treatment of electricity, expounded here this afternoon, it was made much more recently than the Decimal; but I am sure we are getting over the disease, and although it is no doubt spreading in Europe, I say let it spread; they will get over it!

What I object to is mainly the idea of fixedness in classification, an idea which inheres strongly in both these systems, largely because they make definite provision for minute subdivisions all according to a main principle which is at the bottom mechanical. It may not properly be called a Procrustean bed, but that is the figure of speech most naturally occurring to one who has had experience in the line of attempted modification.

Either of these systems is good enough to start from. If adopted in a general way and altered freely, either is fairly good. But we are told that if we change the meaning of the class designations, we are doing the system an injustice, which, if we may not be legally restrained from, we are in honor bound not to continue beyond a certain narrow limit, or else we must proclaim that we are not using the D. C. or the E. C., although we seem to be. For my part I will not accept the alternative of adhering closer than I find convenient to the original use of these three figure class marks, or on the other hand of being charged with "monkeying" with a system—practically infringing its copyright. As I did not adopt the system but only inherited it at Amherst, I am freer from any obligation to adhere to its forms than those are who do adopt it, and may thus be held as pledged to do it no injustice. I understand the founder of the D. C. to object

strenuously to any partial or mixed-up adoption of the system. And his position is a logical one. Uniformity of practice among libraries is one of the chief legs on which the system stands, or we may say is one of the seven-league boots on which it is making its strides over the world.

We have had presented here the idea of a "universal language" of classification, based on the D. C. numerals. It is a great fallacy, an "iridescent dream." Between the different editions of the D. C. itself, much more between the usage of the libraries which have adopted it, there is already divergence of practice fatal to such an idea. In Washington I found a scientific library arranged forsooth by the D. C., but in it 570 means Anthropology and 574 Biology!

The fact is that the D. C. is much in the position of the hen with a brood of ducks. She wants to insist that they follow her ways else they are not her chickens; but they take to the water. If the D. C. should cross off from its list of adherents all who have taken greater liberties with it than its founder regards as consistent with its proper carrying out, the list would dwindle amazingly, and as it grows at the end must constantly be whittled away higher up.

What I plead for is liberty of arrangement, liberty of change in arrangement, much greater than the D. C. permits. And I warn others who would take it as a good thing "to start from," that they would better take a scheme made to be worked away from than one which looks so strongly towards uniformity of practice that it is bound to put those who change its symbols in the attitude of traitors to the cause which it represents.

Dr. PECKHAM said that there could be no philosophical or scientific classification, because human knowledge was constantly changing.

B: PICKMAN MANN protested against the statement made by Dr. Peckham that reclassification of subjects is frequently necessary, as, for instance, that insects may some time have to be classed amongst vertebrates. On the contrary, he held that subjects and their relations were the same in all time, past, present, and future; that a classification of subjects once properly formed would never need amendment. In forming a system of classification the views of all classifiers should be considered. Reducing

the system of one classification to the terms of that of another is an excellent means of reaching results. The symbolism used to express the system serves as a means of crystallizing results. It is immaterial whether a basis of nine or any other number of digits be used in the system. The development of a subject may show the advisability of changing the plane of cleavage, so that subjects developing into subdivisions requiring but four symbols, for instance, should yield some space to those which have been found to require nine. In his work he has taken a subject using three figures in the Decimal classification and developed it to six or seven figures, finding place amongst these for the original subject.

Mr. CURRIER spoke of the classification that could be evolved, so to speak, from the subject headings used in the published periodical catalog cards, and the usefulness of existing schemes.

Mr. ANDREWS spoke of his own use of the D. C. at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology and the John Crerar, and Dr. RICHARDSON referred to the classification in use by him at Princeton.

The meeting adjourned at 5.10.

### SECOND SESSION.

(KIMBALL HOUSE, WEDNESDAY EVENING,  
MAY 10.)

The meeting was called to order at 8.30 by the chairman, Dr. RICHARDSON, who then read his paper on

#### CO-OPERATION IN LENDING AMONG LIBRARIES.

(See p. 32.)

G. F. DANFORTH, librarian of Indiana University, opened the discussion with a short talk having special reference to the needs of the average college of the middle west. He had sent a circular letter of inquiry respecting the practice or desirability of inter-library loans to all the institutions of this region. The replies could not be presented in tabular form, but showed a widespread interest in the subject, together with an occasional display of self-sufficiency or of ignorance as to what was meant. One institution had a library containing everything that the professors could need, and saw no advantage in lending to others;

another had very few duplicates, and consequently could make few loans. Most libraries, however, acknowledged the need of supplementing their own resources by occasional loans, and reported a willingness to reciprocate. Many were already in the habit of borrowing, and Harvard, Cornell, and the Indiana University were mentioned as loaning libraries.

The class of books generally needed, however, were not so much foreign periodicals as ordinary works now out of print and latest editions of standard manuals, where narrow means operated to delay or prevent purchase, though urgent temporary need by some individual would warrant the expenditure of the cost of transportation. A certain professor's work was delayed several weeks by inability to secure a particular edition of Milton, which was neither especially rare nor expensive, and yet was absolutely necessary to the accuracy of some desired annotation.

It would expedite and increase the efficiency of inter-library loans if some common catalog of the books and serials thus available could be kept at a central point in the states, preferably in the library making the most loans.

S. S. GREEN doubted whether libraries supported by a municipality could legally enter into formal agreements for inter-library loans and purchases, but instanced the fact that such loans were freely made by Worcester Public Library on the general ground that the librarian, with the consent of the trustees, was always at liberty to extend courtesies believed to be advantageous indirectly to the loaning, as well as directly to the borrowing library.

H. L. ELMENDORF believed that the Buffalo Public Library could properly join in such a scheme as was suggested by Dr. Richardson, and remarked upon the large extent to which that library was already in the habit of making inter-library loans.

W. T. PEOPLES said he usually loaned books to other institutions without hesitation, yet occasionally received a request that seemed unreasonable in view of the character and rarity of the books. Such was a recent demand for a file of a metropolitan daily to be sent to a place many miles distant in instalments of 15 volumes every fortnight.

J. I. WYER called attention to the fact that the list of libraries in Bolton's catalog did not mention all that could be properly included.



The University of Nebraska had over 50 of the sets cataloged in that work.

Miss I. E. LORD said that the Bryn Mawr Library had 77 sets. In requesting loans of other libraries mentioned in this list she was struck with the frequency with which incomplete sets had been reported. She showed that the cost of transportation, which as some colleges are situated is peculiarly heavy, is constantly operating as an incentive to the purchase of certain expensive periodicals which can nevertheless be easily borrowed.

Dr. J. S. BILLINGS said that Bolton's list of scientific periodicals included many of merely nominal value and of no real use in research, particularly among the popular agricultural journals. The library of the Surgeon-General's office possessed a remarkably complete collection of medical periodicals and translations which is practically exhaustive as far as America is concerned. That library has perhaps been more liberal in its loans than any other, and has extended its usefulness to all parts of the country. Yet this course occasionally elicits bitter complaints from individuals who have come to Washington to consult it and find that the volumes desired are temporarily in another city.

On account of restrictions on the collections of its component libraries, the New York Public Library cannot loan its books to other institutions, but it does co-operate in the matter of purchases, especially with the library of Columbia University. Changes in the methods of biological study make the presence of certain elaborately illustrated works necessary in the laboratories rather than in the libraries. Hence a large public reference collection can well be excused from purchasing expensive zoölogical and botanical books which can never be used to advantage within its walls.

The fault of our bibliographical works is the tendency to be exhaustive rather than illuminative. Our most elaborate bibliographies give not the slightest clue to the vast amount of rubbish they list. Annotations, however brief, must be demanded. A college periodical, the subject matter of which is quite worthless to the student of science or history, becomes of value and interest to another seeker for the first

flight of some author who has since won literary fame.

The idea of a central catalog recording all the volumes in the libraries of the land dates back to Professor Jewett, who elaborated a plan for its accomplishment, a scheme that broke down under the intense weight of its costliness. The expense involved could only be met by the national government, and the desirableness of the catalog itself could not be made evident to many members of Congress.

Dr. RICHARDSON instanced as an illustration of the occasional inconvenience of inter-library loans his personal experience in visiting Paris to consult a particular manuscript in the Bibliothèque Nationale, only to find it loaned to a German professor, a rival in the work on which he was then engaged. On a subsequent visit, taking the precaution to send a request for it in advance, he found on his arrival that it had been so carefully reserved for his use that a day or two elapsed before its temporary place of deposit could be ascertained.

G. T. LITTLE read his paper on

#### THE LIBRARY IN THE SMALL COLLEGE.

(See p. 50.)

Prof. H. N. BULLARD read a short paper on

#### DIRECTING GROWTH IN THE SMALL COLLEGE LIBRARY BY WEEDING OUT BOOKS,

in which he advocated a continuous though gradual process of removing inferior books or superseded authorities, thus keeping a small collection thoroughly reliable and useful to the student. He added "No one can dogmatically lay down rules for weeding in the library any more than in the garden. . . . The growth of our libraries depends on us to a great extent. We may open the door to everything, or we may put quality before quantity. I suppose there is no one of us but desires this, and a little thought will convince most of us that in the small college library a judicious weeding out of certain books and a careful transplanting of others to specially prepared beds will make our libraries more up to date in a true sense and better prepared for growth."

Adjourned at 10.30.

## ELEMENTARY SECTION.

THERE were two sessions of the Elementary Section, held under the chairmanship of Dr. George E. Wire, on Tuesday and Thursday, May 9 and 11, respectively.

## FIRST SESSION.

(KIMBALL HOUSE, TUESDAY AFTERNOON, MAY 9.)

The meeting was called to order by Dr. WIRE at 3.10.

Miss M. E. AHERN read a paper on  
THE BUSINESS SIDE OF A WOMAN'S CAREER AS  
LIBRARIAN.

(See p. 60.)

Dr. G. E. WIRE spoke on

BOOK SELECTION, BUYING, AND BINDING.

(See p. 63.)

There was a short discussion regarding the choice of books for small libraries, opposing the views set forth in the paper as to confining purchases within a limit of \$1.50.

Miss L. E. STEARNS said: A word should be said as to buying better books. How are we going to have the "real thing" in literature if we limit our price to one dollar and a half for a book? How are we to get Nansen's "Farthest north," or the life of Tennyson? Why should we confine our purchase to the elementary and the abridged; to such literature as that of the Appleton "Home reading" volumes and their kin? When a good wholesome book comes out, in which every one is interested, I do not believe in saying "We cannot afford to buy it."

Protest along the same lines was made by Miss Haines, Mrs. Sanders, and Miss Ahern, all of whom expressed their belief that price should not be the determining factor in the choice of books, and that the better books were more than worth their cost in their permanent value and their mechanical attractiveness, and should be bought so far as possible, even though such buying meant cutting down the extent of the library's purchase list.

Miss A. M. MEAD read Miss L. E. W. BENEDICT's paper,

HINTS ON CLASSIFICATION.

(See p. 65.)

Miss JENNIE D. FELLOWS read a paper on  
CATALOGING, ACCESSIONING, AND SHELF-LISTING  
FOR SMALL LIBRARIES.

(See p. 68.)

There was no further discussion and the session was adjourned at 4.30.

## SECOND SESSION.

(KIMBALL HOUSE, THURSDAY EVENING, MAY 11.)

The meeting was called to order at 9 p.m. by Dr. WIRE, who then read a paper on

ORGANIZATION.

(See p. 70.)

There was a short discussion. Miss M. W. Freeman said that she thought the accessioning should be done by the assistant instead of the librarian, and Miss Hewins confirmed this from her own experience.

Miss M. B. LINDSAY read a paper on  
CHANGING FROM A SUBSCRIPTION LIBRARY TO A  
FREE PUBLIC LIBRARY,  
(See p. 73.)

and Miss M. W. FREEMAN read a paper on

MANAGEMENT OF SMALL PUBLIC LIBRARIES.

(See p. 76.)

Mrs. SANDERS spoke briefly on the use of the Perry pictures, which at the Pawtucket Library were found a help in school work and with the children. They are mounted, grouped according to subjects and enclosed in envelopes, on which are noted references to and quotations from poems relating to the subjects of the pictures. These envelopes are charged like books, on a charging card in a pocket attached to the envelope.

Adjournment at 10 p.m.

## STATE AND LAW LIBRARY SECTION.

THE State and Law Library Section of the A.

L. A. held meetings on Wednesday and Thursday evenings, May 10 and 11. The state libraries of Iowa, New York, Pennsylvania, Ohio, Indiana, Mississippi, Vermont, Illinois, Georgia, New Hampshire, and Wisconsin were represented, a larger representation than at any previous meeting.

The first session, on Wednesday evening, was opened with an address by the chairman, JOHNSON BRIGHAM, state librarian of Iowa, on

## THE STATE LIBRARIAN'S OUTLOOK.

(See p 81.)

MELVIL DEWEY followed with a talk on

## DANGERS OF OVER-ORGANIZATION.

My topic is the danger of over-organization. I should like to add to it, of under-organization. My experience leads me to disagree somewhat with what Mr. Brigham has said of organization and of *ex-officio* trustees. There are five or six different methods of constituting these trustees. They might elect from their own number in the ordinary method of the college and university to fill vacancies in their own number, but that would make them a close corporation, and, for the functions that they have to exercise, it would probably be impracticable. Such a board, however, would find the best men to fill vacancies. They might be elected under a general ticket, but that would put them in the direction of partisan politics, and anything of that sort is to be deplored. I think by far the best method is appointment by the governor and confirmation by the senate. This centralizes responsibility on one man.

Now, as to organization, we want to secure a high grade of unification. Experience in the library world has shown it a mistake to make the libraries a part of the public school system. The school officers are elected to advance the interests of the schools; that is their great interest, and the libraries will get only the crumbs that fall from the school table. We shall never get the highest grade of library work until the library's affairs are in charge of men who consider the library the supreme thing. The libraries are not subordinates of the

school. They are the school's allies, entitled to the same consideration, to the same support, and to the same whole-souled devotion of men who have no higher interest than the institution they have to serve. We do not want but one board, and the reasons are these: There are certain important functions that cannot be performed by a legislative body. The legislature is too large a body; it does not deal fairly with these questions; if it handles them it makes mistakes. We want a board to perform certain legislative functions which cannot be satisfactorily performed by the legislature itself, and which cannot be delegated to any single officer. When you make a second board you cause not only expense and confusion, but friction. There will be a certain overlapping of functions, and divided strength will beget only weakness. The state library commission, whatever name it may be called by, should control these others also. I have no fault in our chairman's stand, that the secretary of state should control the library; but the men who are thinking about it day and night might take the library interest and carry it with unity. We cannot pick up a newspaper to-day but we see the lesson of unity; the proof that by combination, by strength, and reducing the number of officials and of governing boards, you can improve administration and reduce expenses. You can do more with your money by union. You put all these interests together and they make each other strong. So I would plead for unification; and then, on the other hand, I want to plead a little the dangers of under-organization, a failure to recognize what the future is.

You understand, first, how great a thing the modern library is. I venture to say that no one in this room, however far-sighted he may be, sees what the library of the great future is to become. Stop and think a minute of our schools. You cannot do this work without the support of the local, the state, and the national government. You cannot maintain a system of public schools by furnishing contributions or endowments. We have learned that we must use the public press. Now we are learning the same lesson over again in the libraries. Most state libraries to-day are little better than

ciphers. One by one the states are beginning to fall into line. They are beginning to get out of politics. Sometimes politics has given us a splendid man or woman who is doing great work; but the state library has not yet recognized its function, and the library itself has not been recognized. If a state has a state library in politics, in charge of a librarian that cannot be displaced at present, then by all means have the library commission independent, but I should have in mind the day when the state should again get control of the library.

I have said enough to make clear to you what I conceive to be the great things that we must recognize in the state library, and which are most important. Many years ago when I looked over the library field I was convinced that the highest usefulness was to enlist the aid of the state library and the government librarians as a means of doing that essential thing, hitching our library wagon to a star.

W. E. HENRY presented the report of the SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON STATE PUBLICATIONS.

(See p. 85.)

The meeting then adjourned.

On Thursday evening the matter of state library commissions was taken up. Miss Gratia Countryman gave a report of the four attempts which had been made in Minnesota to bring

about the organization of a state library commission—the last having been successful during the past winter. Mrs. E. C. Earl, library commissioner of Indiana, then gave the history of the organization of the Indiana State Library Commission, showing the important part which study clubs took in furthering the movement. C. B. Galbreath, state librarian of Ohio and secretary of the state library commission, spoke of the work done in that state. H. W. Denio, of the state library of New Hampshire, then outlined the work done by the state library commission of his state. Miss M. L. Titcomb, secretary of the Vermont Library Commission, gave an encouraging account of the library movement in Vermont. Mr. F. A. Hutchins, secretary of the Library Commission of Wisconsin, then spoke of library development in the Badger state. Reports were also given of the work done by the Pennsylvania, Illinois, Mississippi, and Georgia state libraries.

The report of the Special Committee on State Publications was adopted, followed by election of officers as follows:

Chairman, Miss L. E. Stearns, Madison, Wis.; secretary, Miss M. L. Titcomb, Newport, Vermont.

The meeting then adjourned.

L. E. STEARNS. *Secretary.*

## TRUSTEES' SECTION.

THE Trustees' Section of the A. L. A. held a meeting at the Sweetwater Park Hotel on Friday, May 12, at 4.30 p.m. There were present Dr. H. M. Leipziger, R. R. Bowker, Robinson Locke, Dr. Hathaway, C. L. Kates, C. R. Dudley.

The following officers of the section were chosen for the ensuing year: Chairman, Dr. H. M. Leipziger; secretary, T. L. Montgomery.

After discussion the following resolutions were adopted:

"*Voted*, That the executive board of the American Library Association be requested to devote one general session of the next conference to the topics of particular interest to trustees as well as librarians, *e.g.*, 1, Compensation for librarians and assistants; 2, Vacations; 3,

Length of day service; 4, Purchase of books; 5, Selection and examinations of employees.

"*Voted*, That circulars be issued to each library containing a brief *résumé* of such matters as might be interesting to trustees, and that the chairman be requested to prepare the circular in co-operation with Mr. Bowker.

"*Voted*, That two months prior to the next conference a circular be sent to each trustee of each library, urging that the librarian and one trustee at least be sent to the A. L. A. conference at the expense of the library, and that the circular be prepared by the chairman and Mr. Bowker and be signed by trustees of libraries interested."

The resolutions were presented at the next general session of the association, and it was voted that they be referred to the executive board.

## THE SOCIAL SIDE OF FOUR ATLANTA DAYS.

BY ISABEL ELY LORD, *Librarian Bryn Mawr College.*

IN the issue of the *Atlanta Constitution* for Sunday, May 7, 1899, almost a page was devoted to text and pictures anent the American Library Association. An article on the Library of Congress began with a number of not unknown quotations as to books and reading, ending with some verses of George Crabbe, two of which I take for my motto here :

"But man alone has skill and power to send  
The heart's warm dictates to the distant friend."

This, in the stilted phrase of the eighteenth century poet, is what every "visiting librarian" at Atlanta would like to do—send "the heart's warm dictates to the distant friends" in that southern city of the open door. In its journeys from Atlantic to Pacific, from Canada to Georgia, the association surely has found the acme of hospitality in 1899. There may be other acmes, if one be allowed so to abuse the word, but no city can do more than reach the level of this one.

To come to detail, the entertainment of the guests was begun on Monday evening, shortly after the arrival of the main party, and took the shape of an informal reception in the parlors of the Kimball House, where His Honor Mayor Woodward received, assisted by Atlanta ladies. The new arrivals were a little weary, and the reception ended early.

On Tuesday afternoon, from 5 to 7, the Woman's Club of Atlanta threw open its rooms for a reception to the A. L. A. Mrs. Burton-Smith, the newly elected president of the club, received with its other officers. Refreshments were served and many a good story told by the hostesses.

This last statement brings up the remark that was made again and again by every visitor from the north concerning their southern hosts: "Ah, but they can talk!" They can make speeches, they can tell stories, they can say graceful little individual things, all without effort and all without affectation. Many there were who came back to our bleaker climate with the firm resolve to cultivate that especial grace of the sunny south. And every one thanked Mr. Putnam for his happy characteri-

zation of the "mellifluous" welcome we received.

In the evening of this same day, after the public meeting at the Grand Opera House—which, being a regular session of the conference, has no place here, or there would be more to say about speeches—the Capital City Club gave an informal reception, which soon turned into a dance on the perfect floor of their ball-room. There was plenty of liquid refreshment and again there were speeches—a most excellent one by Major Livingston Mims, the president of the club. I might add here that some of the business women of the conference felt a little strange occasionally to find "the ladies" so gallantly alluded to first, last and all the time as "the great grace of this or any other occasion." Added to the reputation of possessing, as librarians, most of the brains and quite all the culture of these United States, it was more of a responsibility than most of them cared to bear.

Now when I come to speak of Wednesday does the mouth of each Atlantan guest water at the remembrance! We went to that barbecue determined to eat something from politeness, we stayed to devour large animals because the feast was delicious. We all know now how a trench is made for a barbecue, how the slow fire is built up, just how often the roasting half-animals are turned on their spits, exactly what mixture they are basted—or shall I say mopped?—with, and precisely how to eat them; but we all know equally well that we could no more have a successful barbecue in the north than we could play in a Lard Can Quartette.

The Lard Can Quartette! Who ever thought that two cheap guitars, a mandolin played with the fingers, and a huge lard can two feet high, played by blowing on the edge to get the bass viol effect one obtains from a comb—who ever thought these could produce music? Yet music it was. The earnest leader of the quartette sang also, joined by his fellows in the chorus of "My Honolulu Lou" and other classics, while the small coin rattled in the capacious lard can.

It was with difficulty we were called away to

the feast itself. Those in the pavilion were enlivened by the strains of a regular orchestra, while the more fortunate ones at the tables under the trees enjoyed the quartette. When barbecued shote and lamb, Brunswick stew, pepper salad, and gallons of beer had at last sated even A. L. A. appetites, all gathered in the pavilion, to be welcomed by more speeches, and, again, such good speeches! Mr. Stoddell, the president of the Cold Springs 'Cue Club, which was extending to us the hospitality of its grounds, explained how he converted a Methodist minister to barbecues, and how new members are initiated into the club; other people explained other things, and then Mrs. Moore, better known as "Betsy Hamilton," gave a dialect imitation of a lazy darky housemaid directing the process of catching a chicken for supper; only it was not exactly an imitation—it was the real thing. A coon dance followed, performed by the before-mentioned leader of the Lard Can Quartette. It called down a shower of silver, and roused bitter envy in the hearts of those members of the A. L. A. who think they know, or had thought they knew, how to cut pigeon wings themselves. After being photographed in a group, which straggled up the hillside, and which has since been reproduced as the frontispiece of the June *Library Journal*, the A. L. A. went back to Atlanta. At the little station, however, the entertainment by the quartette was continued, and an old negro of inky blackness harangued from a cart a select portion of the party, giving a unique exhibition of the Tonic Sol-Fa system as comprehended by one of our colored brethren.

One would think such an occasion might exhaust the resources of even the south, but not at all. On Thursday afternoon a line of special trolleys took us around the city by mysterious ways, and sometimes at a break-neck speed, meant to prove to us that Atlanta, at least, is not slow. Agreed, it is not.

The trolley ride ended on the grounds of the Atlanta Exposition, where the Piedmont Driving Club now has its quarters in the house next the New York building, which latter it also uses. The view was a beautiful one, the club-house

most attractive, the orchestra, out under a big tree, played inspiring airs, and refreshments, liquid and otherwise, circulated continually. After a time every one was called within the building, where Mr. Clarence Knowles, president of the club, welcomed us. He called on a librarian to answer, and the North breathed freely once more—it could make a speech, too! Mrs. Lowe, president of the Federation of Women's Clubs, then told a capital story. She was followed by "Betsy Hamilton," who this time appeared in costume as an old "cracker" woman of Alabama, card-spinning, making comments on her neighbors, the Simmonses, and suffering audibly from the pangs of rheumatism.

With reluctance we turned away and went down the long flights of white steps to the waiting trolleys, reluctance due to the thought that this was our last festivity in Atlanta proper. A cool ride back to the Kimball House, and then the packing of trunks for the morning train. The bulk of the party went on to Lithia Springs for Friday, but Atlanta had done its last for us.

It would be Hamlet with the Dane left out, not to mention the two people to whom especially we are indebted for our enjoyment. Miss Wallace—here's looking at her!—we knew before, and it is needless to say more than that she was what we knew she would be—a perfect hostess. Of Mr. Martin, chairman of the local committee, we cannot say more and we would not say less. He was omnipresent for our good, and what man could do he did—and more than most.

The greatest difficulty one feels about the entertainment at Atlanta is the finding of some adequate expression of thanks therefor. In vain we remember the Red Queen's injunction, "Speak in French when you can't think of the English—turn out your toes as you walk—and remember who you are!" We can only say, Thank you! and, considering the amount we make it mean, we ought to hand over to it a large sum. "When I make a word do a lot of work like that," said Humpty Dumpty, "I always pay it extra!"

## THE TRAVEL CHRONICLE.

BY HELEN E. HAINES.

IT is unfair to tell the tale of the A. L. A. journeyings of 1899 under so limited a title as "The post-conference." For the days of travel southward from east and west deserve as full a record as does the journey home; and there were few pleasanter hours in this pleasantest of conferences than those spent in whirling through the ever-changing country, with friends at hand, with every-day cares forgotten, and with the anticipation or the memory of good times to begin or end the chapter.

Let us begin, then, with the journey down to the Land of Cotton; and that for the majority of delegates had its beginning in the noisy chaos of the Pennsylvania Railroad station at Jersey City, at 8 o'clock on the morning of Saturday, May 6. The Fall River boat of the night before had brought its quota to New York, and nearly a dozen states were represented by the company of 60 odd that filled the special car on train no. 45 that pleasant morning. At Newark, at Philadelphia, and elsewhere the party was augmented, and a "standing room only" sign was needed until the addition of a second car improved the circulation and made every one comfortable. The trip was made on the "coupon plan"—a most agreeable invention, whereby time-tables are robbed of their terrors and expense accounts are simplified—and by noon most of the travellers were ready to present the second of the 31 coupons that lay before them. This read "lunch, en route." It represented a box luncheon, followed by strawberries and ice-cream, for which all were earnestly besought to "save your spoons." There was a distinct picnic flavor about this interesting repast, with its large green pickles in tissue paper, its pill boxes of salt and pepper, its sandwiches, hard-boiled eggs, and powdery lady-fingers, and it was convincing evidence of the resources of the Union Lunch Rooms of Jersey City.

The afternoon seemed short as the train passed through the level country of Delaware and Maryland, where lilacs, a general greenery, and increasing proportions of grinning darkies at railway stations and along the line gave proof that the North was fast receding. A two-hour

sall from Cape Charles—pleasant despite the lowering mist that now and then became a gentle drizzle—brought the party across the Chesapeake to Old Point Comfort, where the comfortable Hygeia received them in time for a general freshening up before the late dinner in the spacious dining-room, with its great central fireplace from which the arched ceiling radiates in graceful lines. Ten or twelve hours of steady travelling is just the stimulus your A. L. A. pilgrim needs to keep him fresh and active, so after dinner some of the party made their way to the Saturday night dance at the Chamberlin, opposite; others found an evening stroll pleasant, though damp; and still others lingered in the pleasant parlors and set forth the attractions of A. L. A. conferences to Miss Mary E. Wilkins, who seemed at last to realize the cruelty of Fate in not making her a librarian.

Sunday morning found enough to do to keep even the A. L. A. occupied until four o'clock. An enterprising few were out in time to enjoy Guard Mount at the Fort at nine o'clock; later comers wandered about the Fort itself and gathered buttercups and daisies; and at 10 all were ready for the trolley cars that were to take them to Hampton Institute two miles away, where a special song service had been arranged. At Hampton the visitors were welcomed with "Joy to the world," by the institute band, and after greetings from Principal Frissell, Miss Herron, and other of the officers, stood about the campus and admired the soldierly drill of the 300 negro and Indian lads in their trim dark blue uniform. After this the visitors crossed over to the vine-clad library building, where fine specimens of the students' handiwork—in cabinet-making, needlework, and other examples of manual skill—were displayed, and where the plans for the new stack addition were shown and discussed. The service followed, in the beautiful chapel, built by the students themselves from the Marquand bequest. Short addresses were made by Dr. Frissell, President Lane, Miss Hewins, Mr. Bowker, and Mr. Soule, and then came the wonderful singing, never to be forgotten by those who heard it. It was an impressive audience,

over 500 boys and girls, ranging from brown-haired blue-eyed Cherokees and other impassive Indian faces, to ebony Africans, responsive to each speaker's words and putting all the quickly stirred emotion of their race into the melodies that rose from wistful sweetness to triumphant heights. After the service some of the visitors wandered through the farm and flower gardens and the institute workshops, where blacksmithing, carpentry, and other trades are followed; others found their way to the sheltered corner by the river-bank, where General Armstrong's grave lies, marked by a boulder of Hawaiian lava at the head and a rock of New Hampshire granite at the foot; and a privileged few were admitted to the pretty little cottage—truly a "Japanese interior"—where Miss Alice M. Bacon showed them her miniature Japanese girls and women, and babies too, from the two-inch empress in royal robes, to the two-foot beauty who had gowns and head-dresses for each day in the week, and to spare.

Return was made to the Hygeia in time for the noon dinner; in the afternoon many wandered about Fortress Monroe, where the little Post Library and the Chapel of the Centurion were visited under the guidance of Dr. Freedom; and at four o'clock the boat was taken for Norfolk, where a few hours later the party was stowed away in the special train of Pullman sleepers. Throughout the evening the blank dreariness of the Dismal Swamp made a cheerless panorama. It was fitly celebrated by the recitation of Moore's touching ballad, and by the introduction of what was politely designated as "supper" on the coupons aforesaid. This proved, however, to be a second advent of the box luncheon of Saturday, somewhat wilted by its patient waiting, and with its flavors (picnic or otherwise) intensified. But A. L. A. philosophy is optimistic, and there was the pleasant certainty that every one would be ready for breakfast.

They were, and early Monday morning found themselves at Rogersville Junction, beyond the melancholy swamp land, up in the fair mountain country of Tennessee, with sunny skies, broad vistas of valleys and hills, and a welcome awaiting them that was delightful in its homely cordiality. Long tables, gay with flower-filled china pitchers, were laid in the primitive railway station. All the "neigh-

bors" were there to help, the girls in their best ribbons; everybody was smiling and hospitable, and urgent that every one should "take a little more," or "try a little of this," while the old host and his wife beamed delightedly upon all. Evidently the neighbors had lent more than their services, for the knives and forks were marked by colored strings, and there was a wide variety of home-made jellies and preserves. One member of the party has preserved the *menu*. It was all on the table, and it was as follows:

Fried chicken,	Preserved citron,
Cold ham,	Stewed pears,
Cold beef,	Pickled pears,
Sausage,	Currant jam,
Omelet,	Blackberry jam,
Fried eggs,	Lettuce,
Boiled eggs,	Radishes,
Pickled eggs,	Hot rolls,
Poached eggs,	Hot biscuit,
Fried potatoes,	Corn pone,
Cold stewed tomatoes,	Coffee,
Grape jam,	Hot tea,
Apple butter,	Iced tea,
Apple jelly,	Milk.

Breakfast over, refreshed, and laden with gifts of flowers, the travellers returned to their train and all through the morning were whirled through a beautiful country, where glimpses of quaint cabins, ploughing ox-teams, and whole regiments of pickaninnies were the despair of the camera fiends who longed for "just one shot." The whirling was diversified at frequent intervals by pauses for the alleviation of a hot box, which was evidently the result of a discussion on classification carelessly indulged in by the occupants of the seat above. Even the suggestion that the lady from Boston should be deputed to sit beside the hot box to keep it cool proved ineffective, and it was not long before the train was acknowledged to be behind time. However, that made little difference, because at noon the western party joined the train, in their special cars, and there were greetings to be exchanged from one end of the continent to another, as New York welcomed Wisconsin, and Colorado met Pennsylvania, and Massachusetts and Nebraska exchanged library news.

The Westerners had their tale of pleasant travelling days. They had set off on Saturday morning and had spent Sunday at Cincinnati,



where the public library force gave them hospitable welcome and where they learned with regret of Mr. Whelpley's illness. In the afternoon they were taken for a trolley ride through the city, as guests of the library board. The trip included a visit to the Zoo and a ride through Eden Park and down the "incline track," which proved a little too exciting for the timid members of the party. Then, after dinner, the train was again taken, and with newcomers from Ohio and Indiana added to the quota, the party was carried on to Chattanooga for Monday's breakfast, and a few hours later joined the train from the east.

Dinner was provided at Dalton, Ga., in the big red-brick hotel, but it lacked the picturesque elements of the Rogersville breakfast. In the afternoon visiting was the order of the day, and he was a wise pilgrim who knew his own resting-place, for every one made calls on every one else, and the clamor of many voices continued without ceasing until at last the train pulled into the Union station at Atlanta—later known to the A. L. A. as the Kimball House Annex.

Of the festivities of the three Atlanta days this chronicle saith not. The travel record begins again on Friday, May 12, when the A. L. A., with bright memories of Atlanta hospitality behind them, filled the special cars that were to carry them to Lithia Springs. A lovely spot is Lithia, and the Sweetwater Park Hotel, cool and airy, bowered in fragrant flowering grapevine, was a restful two days' haven. There was business to be done on Friday, but (to quote John Temple Graves) "the incomparable ozone of these Georgia hills" had to many greater charms than even the consideration of open shelves or the attractions of the Revision of the Constitution. Saturday was free, and gave opportunity for exploration. There was the picturesque old cotton mill, destroyed by Sherman's men, and reached by a beautiful drive through fragrant wooded roads; there was the Chautauqua Frog Pond; and there were clusters of negro cabins along the wayside that brought joy to the souls of the amateur photographers. But there was not much time to spend upon it all, for early in the afternoon a majority of the party took the train for Lookout Mountain, exchanging reluctant farewells with their Atlanta hosts and with

those of the A. L. A. who were obliged to turn their steps homeward without sharing in the Lookout trip.

It is only a few hours' run from Lithia to Chattanooga, and it was enlivened by the exhibition of a brace of infant alligators, owned by the Wanderer from New Jersey, who here rejoined the party after a ramble down in Savannah, and who explained that he had "collected" them for his daughter, who was much interested in botany. From Chattanooga trolley cars took the party to the foot of the inclined railway, and thence they were transported to the Point Inn in time for a late but welcome supper. There are weird tales to be told of the settling down in the Inn that evening; of how the patient travelling-secretary-of-all-work faced the problem of adapting accommodations for 80 to a party of 120, most of whom preferred single rooms with good light, on the view-side of the house; of how high officials in the A. L. A. found resting-place at last in closets and linen-rooms with single windows opening on the hall; and of how a party of twenty or so sought ampler quarters and found them, some two miles along the mountain, in what was euphemistically called "the Sanatorium," but which inquiry revealed to be a Keeley cure. But who could think of such accidents of Fate, out on the broad verandas of the Inn, or on the rocky summits above, with the wind on one's cheek, and heaven above, and all the kingdoms of the world spread out below, even as a map is unrolled upon the floor? There lay the broad Tennessee, looking at that height but a pebble-cast across its widest part, sweeping around the beautiful curve of Moccasin Bend; to the east was the long swelling rise of Mission Ridge, and dim beyond that the faint lines of the Great Smoky Mountains. And over all the sunset glow faded away, to give place to the stars, that were reflected back in the twinkling lights of Chattanooga far below, and kept their radiance even in the silver glory of the full moon.

No wonder every one was refreshed and cheerful Sunday morning. It is a pity there is no time to tell of all they did and saw. There were long rambles over the mountain to the natural bridge, and to Lookout Inn; there were visits to the Lookout battlefield, with its monuments that spoke alike to those who remembered and those who imagined the days when that

which now we call "historic ground" was the centre of the hopes and fears of thousands; and there was "the" cavern to be explored by uncertain match-light, in single file, with its unexpected turns, its "low bridges," and its sudden rivulets—a cavern beside which the guarded intricacies of Luray seemed tame indeed. The hospitality of its southern hosts followed the A. L. A. through all its wanderings. To Lookout Inn Col. Goulding, secretary of the Chattanooga Chamber of Commerce and a director of the Library Association, brought them a cordial welcome, with an offering of beautiful magnolia blossoms, to be carried "up North" as souvenirs of Tennessee, and through all the journey good-will and kindly thoughtfulness were found on every side.

On Monday morning the procession moved again, and from that time until "finis" was written the scenes were shifted continuously, with neatness and despatch. On Monday the entire party left the Inn, and were taken for a long drive through the Chickamauga National Park, along Mission Ridge to Chattanooga, where after dinner the special train was found waiting for them, and the homeward journey was again taken up. Supper was had in the railway station restaurant at Knoxville, and here a telegram was read inviting the A. L. A. to luncheon at the Library of Congress on Wednesday.

On Tuesday morning the A. L. A. disproved the ancient proverb of the Early Bird. All were hurried out of their berths at an uncanny hour—cheated out of an hour's sleep by the change from central to eastern time—and by 7 o'clock they had adjusted themselves in or on the array of curious vehicles that were in readiness at Natural Bridge station and had set out, with breakfast only two miles and a half away. It was a glorious morning, and a beautiful drive along the winding mountain road, with a background of shining river and distant hills, but all were ready to halt when the coaches drew up in the hotel grounds and the hungry horde made its way to the small separate building where breakfast was alleged to be waiting. The waiting, however, was done by the breakfasters. It was rumored that a few of the first coachloads had secured food, but that seems unlikely. There were some four waiters, and

at least 70 famished librarians, who borrowed stray muffins from one another or followed with yearning eyes the progress of a solitary bowl of oatmeal to its envied recipient. A library raid was made upon the kitchen, where a distracted cook was found hovering over one small saucepan containing two eggs—which were promptly carried off by the raiders; but at last orders were evolved from chaos, and the A. L. A. was at least partially fortified for the morning's work.

Then came the pleasant walk to the bridge, along a green wood path beside a tumbling brook, all charming and simple enough until a sudden turn—and there rose the great stone arch, a shrine of living Nature, blue sky above and below it, and the majesty of its beauty setting the seal of silence upon all lips. For those who cared to wander farther, there was the winding path along the river, with the exquisite lace-like falls beyond, the "lost river," and a score of lovely walks; but to the wiser few the bridge, from above and from below, was sufficient.

The hour for return came all too soon, and soon the train was rumbling on to Luray, which was reached about two o'clock. Here carriages were taken to the Mansion Inn, and after dinner the party set out to the famous caverns where two Exploring Sections were organized under official guidance. The caverns were most interesting; indeed they grew "curiouser and curiouser," as the queer hobgoblin formations, the fishmarket, the shawls, Diana's bath, the bridal veil and the musical "organ" were one by one visited and identified. But sunshine and green trees on earth are better than bridal veils and Saracen's tents underground, and few were reluctant to ascend from the damp chill of cavern haunts to the fair world glowing in the afternoon sun. A rapid return was made to the Inn, where supper was served at half-past five; and before long the A. L. A. train was on its way to Washington, performing its last service in the conference of 1899. Washington was reached at 10 o'clock in the evening, and the tired travellers were soon quartered in the comfortable Riggs House.

Wednesday was the last day. During the morning each followed his own devices, assembling at noon in the Library of Congress, where a delightful luncheon was served in one of the private dining-rooms of the restaurant at

the top of the building. In Mr. Putnam's absence Mr. Spofford presided, and here, amid good cheer and pleasant speeches, the 21st conference of the American Library Association was declared at an end. Then the guests dispersed, some to be guided through the beautiful building, the greatness of which grows upon one the more one studies it, others to visit the Washington monument or do other sightseeing, but all to meet again in the evening, when the library building was illuminated and the visitors were conducted by Superintendent Green from the radiantly immaculate dynamo-rooms in the basement through the main departments up to the little balconies above the great reading-room. Thus the A. L. A. Post-

conference of 1899 came to its end in a blaze of light; and those who look back upon it will long have a store of bright memories to lighten workaday hours. Thursday saw the last flickers of it all die away, as the "Royal blue" express whirled the last of the company to their respective homes, and when on Friday morning the New England band exchanged farewells in Boston, the lights were put out and the curtain fell.

NOTE.—The story of the Atlanta conference and the travelling days before and after is told better than words can tell it in the series of photographs taken throughout the trip by Mr. Faxon. Those who desire to see this souvenir of the 1899 meeting may obtain it by addressing F. W. Faxon, 100 School street, Roxbury, Mass.

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*Supplement to "A. L. A. Catalogue"*: Salome C. Fairchild, J. N. Larned, Caroline M. Hewins, R. G. Thwaites, Fred'k M. Crunden, George T. Little, Gardner M. Jones.

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*On "Library Tracts"*: Charles C. Soule, Mary W. Plummer, Helen E. Haines.

*Regarding Library Examination and Credentials*: Wm. H. Brett, Herbert Putnam, Frank P. Hill.

*Regarding American Library Exhibit at Paris Exposition of 1900*: C. W. Andrews, Salome C. Fairchild, J. N. Larned.

## ATTENDANCE REGISTER.

ABBREVIATIONS: F., Free; L., Library; Ln., Librarian; P., Public; As., Assistant; Tr., Trustee.

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 Wood, Mrs. Robert, Lowell, Mass.  
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 Wyche, Benjamin, Ln. Univ. of Texas, Austin, Tex.  
 Wyer, J. I. jr., Ln. Univ. of Nebraska, Lincoln, Neb.

## ATTENDANCE SUMMARIES.

BY NINA E. BROWNE, Registrar; Librarian of Library Bureau, Boston; Assistant Secretary, A. L. A. Publishing Section.

## BY POSITION AND SEX.

	Men.	Women.	Total.
Trustees and commissioners.	22	6	28
Chief librarians.	53	45	98
Assistants.	5	40	45
Library Bureau, booksellers, educators, etc.	10	6	16
Library students.	1	3	4
Others.	9	18	27
	100	118	218
Deduct those counted.	1	2	3
	99	116	215

## BY GEOGRAPHICAL SECTIONS.

9 of the 9 No. Atlantic states sent.	100
4 " 9 So. Atlantic states	42
5 " 8 Gulf states	11
7 " 8 Lake states	55
2 " 8 Mountain states	4
1 " 8 Pacific states	2
Canada	1
Total.	215

## BY STATES.

Me.	2	Tenn.	4
N. H.	1	Ky.	1
Vt.	2	O.	15
Mass.	18	Ind.	9
R. I.	4	Ill.	12
Ct.	5	Wis.	8
N. Y.	44	Minn.	6
N. J.	6	Ia.	1
Pa.	18	Mo.	4
Md.	2	Neb.	2
D. C.	9	Col.	2
S. C.	3	Cal.	2
Ga.	28	Canada	1
Miss.	2		
La.	1	Total.	215
Tex.	3		



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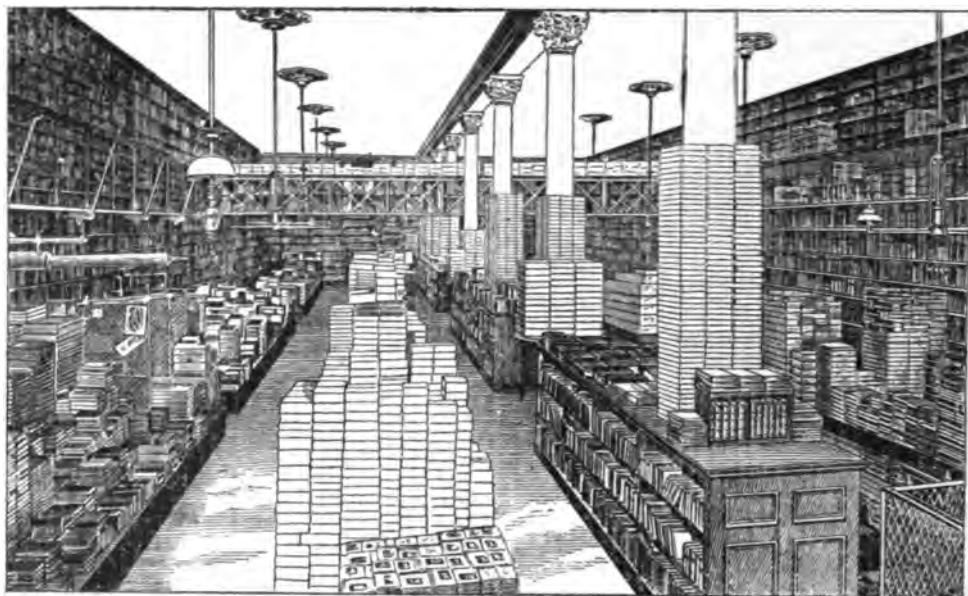
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over 500 boys and girls, ranging from brown-haired blue-eyed Cherokees and other impassive Indian faces, to ebony Africans, responsive to each speaker's words and putting all the quickly stirred emotion of their race into the melodies that rose from wistful sweetness to triumphant heights. After the service some of the visitors wandered through the farm and flower gardens and the institute workshops, where blacksmithing, carpentry, and other trades are followed; others found their way to the sheltered corner by the river-bank, where General Armstrong's grave lies, marked by a boulder of Hawaiian lava at the head and a rock of New Hampshire granite at the foot; and a privileged few were admitted to the pretty little cottage—truly a "Japanese interior"—where Miss Alice M. Bacon showed them her miniature Japanese girls and women, and babies too, from the two-inch empress in royal robes, to the two-foot beauty who had gowns and head-dresses for each day in the week, and to spare.

Return was made to the Hygeia in time for the noon dinner; in the afternoon many wandered about Fortress Monroe, where the little Post Library and the Chapel of the Centurion were visited under the guidance of Dr. Freeland; and at four o'clock the boat was taken for Norfolk, where a few hours later the party was stowed away in the special train of Pullman sleepers. Throughout the evening the blank dreariness of the Dismal Swamp made a cheerless panorama. It was fitly celebrated by the recitation of Moore's touching ballad, and by the introduction of what was politely designated as "supper" on the coupons aforesaid. This proved, however, to be a second advent of the box luncheon of Saturday, somewhat wilted by its patient waiting, and with its flavors (picnic or otherwise) intensified. But A. L. A. philosophy is optimistic, and there was the pleasant certainty that every one would be ready for breakfast.

They were, and early Monday morning found themselves at Rogersville Junction, beyond the melancholy swamp land, up in the fair mountain country of Tennessee, with sunny skies, broad vistas of valleys and hills, and a welcome awaiting them that was delightful in its homely cordiality. Long tables, gay with flower-filled china pitchers, were laid in the primitive railway station. All the "neigh-

bors" were there to help, the girls in their best ribbons; everybody was smiling and hospitable, and urgent that every one should "take a little more," or "try a little of this," while the old host and his wife beamed delightedly upon all. Evidently the neighbors had lent more than their services, for the knives and forks were marked by colored strings, and there was a wide variety of home-made jellies and preserves. One member of the party has preserved the *menu*. It was all on the table, and it was as follows:

Fried chicken,	Preserved citron,
Cold ham,	Stewed pears,
Cold beef,	Pickled pears,
Sausage,	Currant jam,
Omelet,	Blackberry jam,
Fried eggs,	Lettuce,
Boiled eggs,	Radishes,
Pickled eggs,	Hot rolls,
Poached eggs,	Hot biscuit,
Fried potatoes,	Corn pone,
Cold stewed tomatoes,	Coffee,
Grape jam,	Hot tea,
Apple butter,	Iced tea,
Apple jelly,	Milk.

Breakfast over, refreshed, and laden with gifts of flowers, the travellers returned to their train and all through the morning were whirled through a beautiful country, where glimpses of quaint cabins, ploughing ox-teams, and whole regiments of pickaninnies were the despair of the camera fiends who longed for "just one shot." The whirling was diversified at frequent intervals by pauses for the alleviation of a hot box, which was evidently the result of a discussion on classification carelessly indulged in by the occupants of the seat above. Even the suggestion that the lady from Boston should be deputed to sit beside the hot box to keep it cool proved ineffective, and it was not long before the train was acknowledged to be behind time. However, that made little difference, because at noon the western party joined the train, in their special cars, and there were greetings to be exchanged from one end of the continent to another, as New York welcomed Wisconsin, and Colorado met Pennsylvania, and Massachusetts and Nebraska exchanged library news.

The Westerners had their tale of pleasant travelling days. They had set off on Saturday morning and had spent Sunday at Cincinnati,

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CHIEFLY DEVOTED TO

Library Economy and Bibliography

VOL. 24. No. 8

AUGUST, 1899

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# THE LIBRARY JOURNAL

VOL. 24.

AUGUST, 1899.

No. 8

DURING the past seven months a single branch of library development in this country has been aided to the extent of two and a half million dollars, the direct contribution of one man. Since January first Mr. Andrew Carnegie has given the sum of \$2,450,000 for the establishment or development of American libraries, this amount including only gifts of not less than \$50,000, and leaving out of account the many minor sums, ranging from several hundred to several thousand dollars, given in aid of such library enterprises as the Seaboard Air Line library system and the library of Matanzas, Cuba. The great Carnegie institution of Pittsburgh stands first on the list with an additional gift of \$1,750,000, to be devoted to the extension and improvement of its art, science, and library departments; the Washington Public Library received a New Year's gift of \$250,000, later increased by an additional \$50,000; Atlanta and the Pennsylvania State College have each the sum of \$100,000 to their credit for library purposes; similar gifts of \$50,000 each have been made to Connellsville and McKeesport in Pennsylvania, and to Steubenville and East Liverpool in Ohio; while the half year's record finds completion in the recent gifts of \$50,000 each to Fort Worth, Texas, and to San Diego, California.

THE gift to Fort Worth is of special interest, in view of the representation of the local library association at the Atlanta conference of the A. L. A.; and those who have followed the persistent enthusiasm with which the members of that association have worked to accomplish the results now so happily achieved for them will rejoice that it has been so fully rewarded. Appreciation of the aid so freely given is witnessed in the unique proclamation and mass-meeting with which Fort Worth celebrated her good fortune, and the new library seems assured from the beginning of a prosperous career. Indeed, the basis upon which Mr. Carnegie's gifts are made practically guarantees such a career, for it provides that help is given only to those who help themselves, and it enlists local pride and public support in the library

cause. If the record set by Mr. Carnegie for the last seven months is continued for the five months to come, the year 1899 may well go down in library annals as the Carnegie year.

IN connection with the several papers on library bulletins printed elsewhere, a correspondent raises the question of the value of special lists in directing reading. "Is it certain," it is asked, "that such lists lead to circulation of the books listed? I sometimes wonder whether a collection of books on a special subject placed in a conspicuous and accessible place does not produce better results. The experience of librarians in this matter would prove interesting to learn." The question is open to librarians to answer, though definite results in such a field of inquiry can hardly be hoped for. While the books themselves must make the most direct and therefore the strongest appeal to readers of almost every class, special collections would probably reach fewer persons than would special reading lists, and Mr. Foster bears effective witness to the value of the latter in awakening interest in special writers or special topics. The reasons underlying choice of books in general can hardly be reduced to statistics, yet an effort to carry out such an inquiry has recently been undertaken. The Library Club of Western Massachusetts at its last meeting decided to investigate the general question of the selection of books by the public, to discover what impulses direct such choice, what percentages are chosen respectively through the catalog, through the bulletin, through examination of the books, through the advice of teachers or the influence of the librarian, and how far advertisements, reviews, color of binding, and typographical appearance influence the choice of books. The inquiry as outlined certainly does not lack comprehensiveness. The finality of its conclusions may be questioned, for it is in a measure an effort to weigh the imponderable; but its results should be useful in helping to gauge the practical effectiveness of library bulletins as a guide or stimulus to better reading.

IN the current emphasis upon the missionary and educational side of library work there is frequent tendency to forget that librarians are, after all, human, and that there are as yet only 24 hours to the day. In addition to fulfilling technical and bibliographical duties, none too simple in themselves, the librarian, we are told, must serve as guide, philosopher, and friend to the entire community, must maintain close relations with the schools, must direct and stimulate better reading, must guide the youthful mind, and send books to those who will not come for them. Now comes a suggestion to add to these activities the specific oversight of the reading of minors, to be carried on with the approval and for the information of parents or guardians. Theoretically the plan seems to fit in very well with much that is said regarding the library as an educational force, but like many theories it is unlikely to stand practical test. The ordinary librarian finds the wise choice of books and the process of supplying readers with the books they desire a sufficient tax upon time and energy; to add to these duties that of rendering judgment upon the use made by individual readers of the books thus supplied opens a prospect before which the boldest "missionary librarian" may well shrink. In the illustration of the plan given elsewhere, the name of the imaginary librarian has been chosen evidently with a partial realization of the qualities necessary to carry it out; to more thoroughly indicate these qualities, however, we should say (following the idea of the nomenclature adopted) that a Neversleep Liveforever would be the only librarian who could carry such a plan to success.

### Communications.

#### BIBLIOGRAPHICAL ENTERPRISES.

SINCE collecting the titles of union lists of periodicals quoted in Mr. Andrews' paper at the Atlanta Conference, the following additional titles have come to my knowledge:

Daday, J. Budapesti könyvtárakban található természetrajzi folyóiratok jegyzéke. Budapest, 1890. O.

A list of scientific periodicals received by the different libraries in Budapest. Mentioned in Stein's Manuel.

Tabular list of medical periodicals in Melbourne

libraries. (*In Australian Medical Journal*, vol. 15, 1893, p. 97-112.)

Mentioned in Stein's Manuel.

Until the executive board has perfected the plan for preventing duplication of bibliographic work, I would suggest that the LIBRARY JOURNAL be made a medium of information on the subject, and I ask, therefore, to give information of a couple of lists which I at present have at work.

1. A list of bibliographies of bibliographies. It is astonishing how large the number of such bibliographies really is. I have at present seen and copied the titles of nearly 60 lists, have notes of some 20 more, and have in bibliographies seen a number of titles which I have not as yet made note of.

2. A list of bibliographies of periodicals and transactions, and of indexes to periodical literature. This list is just merely begun, and will take considerable time to finish. If some one is already at work with a similar list, I am perfectly willing to turn over to him the little material I have so far collected, or to enter into co-operation with him.

3. I began some years ago a list of Swedish books suitable for public libraries. This list will now hardly be published, but if any one wishes information as to Swedish books, I will very gladly give such information. A descriptive list of some Swedish bibliographies might be useful, and I might publish in the near future a beginning of such a list.

AKSEL G. S. JOSEPHSON.

THE JOHN CRERAR LIBRARY, {  
Chicago.

#### FOR A JOURNAL OF COLLECTED CRITICISM.

WOULD not a journal of collected criticism of current books be very useful to the librarian? A semi-monthly which should collect the salient points of criticism in all the best journals, as *Nation*, *Critic*, *Bookman*, etc., ought to be useful to all buyers, and specially to the librarian who seeks to found his selection upon the consensus of the best criticism. Many books might be annotated very simply, + — etc., as in the method in the careful bibliographies in the *American Journal of Sociology*.

H. M. STANLEY.

LAKE FOREST UNIVERSITY, {  
Lake Forest, Ill.

#### CORRECTION—LOSSES AT THE BUFFALO PUBLIC LIBRARY.

ON page 138 of the Conference (July) number of the JOURNAL, referring to books in the children's room of the Buffalo Public Library, it is stated that there was "with open shelves, containing 1300 volumes, a loss of 298 so far unaccounted for." This should be 8300. It is unfair to the positive side of the open-shelf question to allow that so large a proportion of loss as 298 to 1300 was made.

H. L. ELMENDORF.

PUBLIC LIBRARY, {  
Buffalo, N. Y. }

## LIBRARY BULLETINS: PRINTING AND DISTRIBUTION.\*

BY JOHN G. MOULTON, *Librarian Brockton (Mass.) Public Library.*

MATERIAL for this paper was furnished by 31 representative libraries which issue monthly bulletins. The experience of these libraries is varied in character and will serve merely as a guide to other libraries intending to print bulletins.

There is little uniformity in the general appearance of library bulletins. The majority, however, are about 9 x 6 or 10 x 7 inches in size, with four or eight pages, and with two columns and about 50 titles on a page. The type for the book lists is usually brevier, with annotations in nonpareil, and editorials and library news in long primer. The bibliographical details of the book lists are few, consisting usually of the author's surname and initials in bold-faced type or small capitals, a short title and the date. The book lists are usually classified, as an alphabetical arrangement does not readily show the character of the books in the lists.

The bulletins of the Brookline and Cambridge libraries are notable exceptions to the general style. They are 6¾ x 5¼ inches in size, with 24-30 pages, and with one column and about eight titles on a page. Full bibliographical details are given for each book, and in many cases tables of contents and other annotations are given where the title does not give a clue to the subject matter.

No rule can be given about the cost, that being regulated by local conditions. It ranges from \$9.25 for an issue of 500 copies of a bulletin of four pages to \$40 for 2500 copies of a 30-page bulletin. The average cost per page is about \$2.50, and the average whole cost ranges from \$18 to \$30 for issues of 2000 to 3000 copies of 4 to 8 pages each. To be specific, we pay at Brockton \$18 for 3000 copies of a four-page bulletin with about 50 titles to the page and no annotations.

To be of much interest to the public the bulletin must be issued while the books are new. The general practice is to issue a bulletin once a month, except during July and August.

The character of the library and local conditions regulate the number of copies printed. The following figures show the practice at a

few representative libraries: 500 copies are printed at the Providence Athenæum, Lawrence and Somerville; 1000 at the Providence Public Library; 2000 at Lowell, Malden, Medford, Melrose, and Wilkesbarre; 1500 at Minneapolis and Salem; 1800 at Cambridge; 3000 at Hartford, Lynn, Brockton, and San Francisco; 2500 at Brookline, Chicago, and Newark; 3600 at Worcester; 4000 at Denver; 5000 at Springfield, Pratt Institute, and the Carnegie Library at Pittsburgh.

Bulletins are usually distributed free, except where a small charge is made for mailing. The larger libraries usually give away copies to those who ask for them at the loan desk and at branches and delivery stations. Except among a few of the smaller libraries no systematic attempts seem to be made to reach the people who do not come to the library. One library sends bulletins to hotels, fire engine houses, and police stations, another distributes one copy at each house by means of policemen, some send them to the teachers, and a few send copies to the high schools, although very few send bulletins to the schools in general. At Brockton we distribute 2000 copies through the high and grammar schools, expecting to reach the majority of homes in the city in this way. The teachers give discouraging reports of the bulletins not being appreciated and often being thrown away. We also send them to the fire engine houses, the police station, the Y. M. C. A., the parochial schools and to all the clergymen and the literary clubs.

As a rule bulletins are printed at the expense of the library and without advertisements. They contain little besides lists of new books and special reading lists, and a few have annotations. While recognizing the value of annotations librarians are usually not able to make them from lack of time and money. A few libraries, such as St. Louis and Cleveland, have attempted to issue a library magazine supported by subscription and advertisements, and containing library news, book reviews, lists of new books and reading lists. They were not adequately supported, however, and were soon discontinued.

A new scheme is being tried by several libraries, as Worcester, Springfield, and Lynn, by

\* Read before the Massachusetts Library Club, at Plymouth, June 27, 1899.

which they get their bulletins printed for nothing by the Library Bulletin Co., of Boston. Their bulletins are uniform in size and general appearance, and contain advertisements which pay the cost of publication and presumably give the publisher a profit, as the scheme is strictly a business one. Mr. Dana, of Springfield, says of his bulletin:

"Our present bulletin is published by the Library Bulletin Co., 144 High street, Boston. In consideration of an agreement, which perhaps amounts to giving them the exclusive right to publish our list of additions with other lists and reading-matter, they give us eight pages without charge in a bulletin. These eight pages hold about 7500 words of ordinary reading-matter, or 1000 'title-a-line' entries. Of the bulletin we have free of charge 5000 copies. We have made out a mailing list of 1000 addresses, and the Bulletin Co. mail to these addresses a copy each of the bulletin at a cost of \$3.50 per 1000.

"They do these things by reason of their getting several libraries in or near Massachusetts to adopt the same form of bulletin, and giving them privileges such as we have. This strikes me as very wise co-operation. The bulletin is not just the kind of thing I would like, if money were no object, but we get more space and

better print than we could possibly afford otherwise."

This plan might be tried in other libraries where they do not object to advertisements. These certainly detract from the dignity of appearance of a bulletin, especially when, as in these cases, they are interwoven with library news. Rather than have no bulletin, however, it is better to have one with advertisements, which is good enough for most libraries, especially when it must be admitted that library bulletins are treated with scant ceremony by the public who appreciate nothing except what they pay for.

The small town libraries will find the cost of bulletins prohibitive, but in most cases the local newspapers will be willing to print library lists and news once a week for nothing. In the larger cities this plan is not feasible, or at any rate it is not followed. The small libraries do not use the local papers as much as they should, for their library news often consists of mere unannotated lists of new books. Even when they do issue a bulletin, they should print, if possible, a weekly list of the latest books with notes and library news of general interest. This will keep the public far more in touch with the library than will a most elaborate bulletin issued once a month.

### LIBRARY BULLETINS: THEIR POSSIBILITIES.\*

BY WILLIAM E. FOSTER, *Librarian Providence (R. I.) Public Library.*

THE features which are appropriate to library bulletins are properly divided into (1) those connected with the current additions of books to the library, and (2) those of a more general nature (reference lists, etc.). This paper will deal throughout with specific instances of bulletin entries; but it will relate more fully to the current additions than to the other features, which, unfortunately, we are (for the present, at least), obliged very reluctantly to omit from our own bulletin.

Briefly, however, it may be said that the subjects of the reference lists may be due to a wide range of causes; sometimes current events, as in the Philippine Islands, sometimes a public observance, as the 50th anniversary of California, and sometimes the appearance of

a new edition of an author, as Thackeray. As we are constantly preparing such references, we have found it a not inappropriate measure to embody a condensed reference list in the annotation of a book entry, as in the references on the German Emperor's visit to Palestine, under a work on Jerusalem. The special catalog features, as that in our bulletin on "Catholic literature," are of great serviceableness; and so, in particular, is any assistance that concerns the schools. We have found it very advantageous to note down topics, or articles, or books, or even lines of thought, which will be useful there. Instances in point are the lists of topics for school essays, in the January and October bulletins in 1898; a list of books suitable for the smaller children, in the February number of the same year, an outgrowth of normal school work; points of comparison

\* Read before the Massachusetts Library Club, at Plymouth, June 27, 1899.

between various United States histories for schools, as Channing, McMaster, Gordy, Montgomery, Mowry, Scudder, etc. We have repeatedly aimed at the "syndetic" principle (to use the term made familiar by Cutter's rules), in "binding together" all parts into a connected whole; printing some reference lists in full, and making others available by citation or cross-reference; printing annual indexes of the daily manuscript lists, and quarterly indexes to reference lists in bulletins of other libraries; and especially in referring from an entry on a given subject in one number of the bulletin to the more extended references on the same subject in an earlier number.

Coming to the entries connected with the current additions, the first and most obvious counsel is to look for the significant fact about the book, and express it in the annotation, as in Trevelyan's recent history of the American Revolution, significant as the direct outgrowth of his life of Charles James Fox; or for the significant word in the title of the book, as in Cunningham's work on "Western civilization," "Western" being here "Egypt, Greece, and Rome." It is, of course, appropriate for the annotation to point out an actual error, or to unravel the mystery of a fictitious authorship. Sometimes the printing of the contents of the book will best answer the reader's questions; and indeed the contents will be needed in any case if, as in this library, the bulletin entries reappear in the catalog drawers, as the printed catalog entries. It is our practice to buy books, in certain lines, only on the recommendation of specialists, and their comment, if embodied in a terse phrase, may well be preserved for reference in print in the annotation. The predecessors, the successors, or the competing rivals of a book may well be cited on entering the book itself, as in the annotation under C. M. Andrews's "Modern Europe." If the work as entered is not the original edition, the date of the former edition is appreciated by the student, as is also the information that the earlier edition contains certain material not reproduced in the later one, as the 1840 edition of the "Corpus juris civilis." Never is the "point of view" of the author otherwise than of commanding importance, as, for instance, in the three different lives of St. Francis of Assisi, which have been added to many of our libraries during the past four years. Reference books have almost as their sole function that

of answering questions, and they should therefore be tried with questions, and the annotation should embody the more important answers to the questions. Thus the reader who turns to the entry of De Morgan's "Book of almanacs" should be able to learn whether he can make corrections of old and new style from it. In the entries of works of history, we can seldom afford to miss such information as whether they contain maps, illustrations, or index; and in the entry of a work of art, we need to know more specifically what species of illustrations are embodied in it.

Not all entries of current additions are entries of books currently published, but the earlier books are adapted to annotation perhaps even more than those whose novelty will assure them a reading. Thus, if North's Plutarch should be entered, the information as to the part it played as the basis of Shakespeare's Roman plays will not be unwelcome; while if Jonas Hanway's two volumes on the Caspian Sea are entered, his connection with the first use of the umbrella will add to their interest. In the case of bound magazines and United States Government publications, something definite as to their contents will not only secure them a reading, but will secure the gratitude of the reader, as in the case of the numerous maps in the "Military notes on the Philippines," issued by the War Department. In entering the letters of Cassiodorus (himself most certainly not a figure of very wide interest), reference can be made to an essay on him by one of the most interesting of recent essayists, the late Dean Church. A list of good biographies appearing in 1895, 1896, and 1897, was in unexpectedly wide demand by our readers; and whenever our bulletin has made a "specialty," so to speak, of some standard author, as Burns, Scott, or Thackeray, the interest of the readers has been notably awakened. The number devoted to Scott went out of print almost immediately, and we have tried in vain, by advertising, to procure copies for later subscribers. More than, perhaps, anything else, the bulletin's service in promoting the interested reading of books no longer new has commended it to the library trustees and to others who are interested in the quality of the library's work. The interesting experiment of the Standard Library, to which we are looking forward in the new building, could have no more effective ally than the bulletin, and the same might also be said of the development of

private bookbuying among our readers—a matter which claims much of our interest.

I value our bulletin, also, and very emphatically, for its reflex influence on our library staff. When the reader appeals to the library attendant for a suggestion of "a good book," the attendant should be equal to the emergency. The principles indicated above will almost inevitably give him the power of mentally weighing or appraising the books, and, with it, an enviable readiness in suiting the book to the reader. This facility is still further cultivated at the monthly staff meetings, by assigning a given subject, such as "Photography," "Birds," etc., to some one member to be reported on, after the fashion of Mr. Iles's "evaluation," with the books themselves illustrating each point as

it is made. One of the first things to be commended to any one who would make the annotation an effective one, is to get behind the general to the particular. If there is anything specific about the book, do not fail to get hold of that. An apt quotation from a review will sometimes serve; and, better still, a significant sentence quoted from the book itself—something, in short, to give the reader "a taste" of the book.

In conclusion, it may be said that, so far as the bulletin is of the nature of a catalog, it should be a "living, breathing, catalog"; it should embody the point of view, and the specific assistance of the Information Desk; and it should study the most effective ways of presenting the books to the readers.

#### USING OTHER PEOPLE'S BULLETINS.

BY CAROLINE A. BLANCHARD, *Tufts Library, Weymouth, Mass.*

INDIVIDUALS not owning beautiful works of art and not able to travel and note the wonderful in nature and art beyond their own neighborhood must obtain their knowledge, instruction, enjoyment, and culture from what others have seen, collected, and written; so the smaller libraries that have not sufficient funds for the composition and printing so desirable must enlarge their own work by the judicious use of what is done by those libraries having so large a staff that the making of lists, the compiling of bibliographies, is easily accomplished. This missionary work the librarians of the large libraries are glad to do; indeed, I have yet to discover one who was not gratified that his work should be widely known and used. Of course due acknowledgment should be made if such work forms the basis or a large part of a special list.

Most earnestly do I feel that the time, the study, and thought at present spent in preparing the bulletins of the larger libraries, so valuable for their annotations, special reading lists and suggestions to borrowers, demand that their usefulness should be extended to a larger circle of students and readers than that connected with the libraries issuing them. The librarian of a small library with meagre resources is of necessity often also the assistant, cataloger,

and even the janitor, and has with such varied duties little time for compiling bibliographies or editing a regular bulletin, and so should seek every help available. To such other people's bulletins are a godsend.

Let us consider some of the more important uses that may be made of bulletins.

1. As lists from which to select books for purchase. Most librarians are critical of all books placed in the libraries under their charge and therefore all bulletins are worth looking over, at least, for help in making out order lists. Those having annotations are especially valuable for this purpose. Besides the regular monthly or bi-monthly library bulletins, I have found the annual "Bibliographical contributions," of Bowdoin College Library, listing the best books of the year, exceedingly useful, for in addition the notes, publishers, and prices are stated, and the magazines reviewing each book indicated. The purpose of this publication, "To aid those in charge of the smaller libraries in buying carefully and with definite knowledge of the scope of the book purchased," is well fulfilled.

2. As guides in cataloging and classification. Bulletins of libraries where accuracy is required, no matter how much time is consumed in research, are especially valuable as means of learning an author's real or full name. As long as pseudonyms are used, and women who write

\* Read before the Massachusetts Library Club, at Plymouth, June 27, 1899.



marry and change their names, catalogers must be Argus-eyed, constantly solving mysteries. As an illustration, the recent book, "How to know the ferns," may be cited; the title simply gives the information that the book is by Frances Theodora Parsons, author of "How to know the wild flowers," "According to the season," etc., nothing showing that the writer was formerly Mrs. Wm. Starr Dana, under which name the other books were published.

In the classification of books, it is not always wise to depend blindly on others, for even the best libraries are not infallible, but it is a satisfaction after puzzling over the classifying of some doubtful book and finally disposing of it to find that others have placed it in the same class.

3. For reading lists. The modern, progressive library in order to help the student as it should, must have some means of informing him of all the resources of the library on any subject, making available magazine articles and collected works as well as books dealing specially on the subject. For the magazine articles, "Poole's index" for the back numbers, the "Cumulative index," the references to periodical literature in the *Review of Reviews*, *Current Literature*, and similar magazines, will furnish all that is needed, but for the books and essays on any given subject, the reading lists of the library bulletins are invaluable. It has been my custom to save all bulletins containing such lists, and index the subjects on cards, which I file for ready reference. This work has been done to the year 1898, by Miss Newman, of the New York Library School, and published as an "Index to subject bibliographies in library bulletins to Dec. 31, 1897." It is an excellent compilation and should be obtained by all libraries that possess many of the bulletins.

The Boston, Brookline, Cambridge, Fitchburg, Minneapolis, Osterhout of Wilkesbarre, Providence and Salem public libraries, each publish valuable bulletins, most of them containing reading lists on subjects of importance in each number, making them worthy of constant use. The Hartford, Providence and Osterhout libraries are specially interested in working with the schools, therefore their bulletins are suggestive and their lists particularly useful in this direction.

One number of the *Library News Letter* contained a classified list of books for use in the

schools, which I deemed of sufficient merit to buy copies of, add the Tufts Library call numbers and distribute among the teachers, who have found them helpful.

Miss Hewins, of the Hartford Public Library, also interested in the children, has compiled similar lists that have been useful. She wisely indicates the amusing stories in her fiction lists, thereby making them available as helps in choosing books for invalids, a legitimate work for a library if it is to supply reading for entertainment and recreation as well as for instruction.

If a library possesses a great proportion of the books of a special list, its own call numbers may be added, making it doubly useful at the desk. This is not plagiarism, but a perfectly legitimate way of using bulletins. The Los Angeles Public Library in 1894 published a "List of novels and tales" in English, French, German and Spanish, which was noticed in the *LIBRARY JOURNAL*. I sent for a copy, found that many of the books cataloged were on our shelves, and as the money for printing a fiction list of our own was not forthcoming, I bought a number at 10 cents per copy, added call numbers, and have made them serve well for us as a fiction list.

The University of the State of New York has published numerous bulletins besides the one I have mentioned, that may be utilized by librarians, such as the "Class list of a \$500 library recommended for schools," bibliographies covering many subjects, extension bulletins and the study clubs bulletins. These last lists if better known would be widely used. Club life, at present so important a phase of society, makes additional demands upon the libraries, and extra helps are needed for work in this direction. These study clubs bulletins, each containing a valuable collection of programs used by the clubs under the jurisdiction of the University of the State of New York, are carefully planned, and have in many cases a bibliography of the books needed for the course of study. I have shown them to committees wishing suggestions for subjects of study and assistance in making out programs, and have always found them helpful.

The Boston Book Co.'s *Bulletin of Bibliography*, although intended simply as a means of communication between that firm and its customers, contains in each issue important bibliographies. One, the "List of books first pub-



a permanent book-pocket and a date-slip easily and quickly renewable. The book-pocket is of stout manila paper, and bears the name of the library and a few important charging rules. As it is pasted on the back cover of the book to save the front for book-plate, it should be open at the top to prevent the card from slipping out. Once in, it will probably outlast the ordinary short life of the book.

The date-slip should be of thin paper, preferably ruled in squares, and may be lightly tipped along its upper edge on the flyleaf opposite the pocket. It may be renewed in the space of half a minute. As the stamping is done against the book and not on the cover, the common danger of injury to the hinge is obviated.

The heading of the Racine date-slip reads as follows:

RACINE PUBLIC LIBRARY

This book may be kept

FOURTEEN DAYS

A fine of two cents will be imposed for each day this book is kept over time.

The substitution of "seven" for "fourteen" days in an additional set of slips saves the need of an extra "seven-day" label, and this heading, combined with the date stamped below, should be a sufficient reminder to even the most careless borrower.

As I have used the Browne system and proved its adaptability in libraries of such varying size, I was especially interested in the ingenious improvements suggested by the paper referred to, and should be glad to see them tested by practical use.

ELIZABETH P. CLARKE,

Reference Librarian, Evanston (Ill.) Free Public Library.

# MONTHLY REPORTS FROM PUBLIC LIBRARIANS UPON THE READING OF MINORS: A SUGGESTION.

LUCIUS PAGE LANE, of the New York State Library School, class of '99, sends a rather novel suggestion, looking to the presentation by librarians to teachers and guardians, on request of the latter, of monthly reports upon the reading of minors. He points out that such a plan bears closely upon the general question of the use of fiction, and deprecates being considered an opponent of fiction reading for the young. But he quotes, "in substance," the statement of "the principal of a large endowed academy," that "the voracious devouring of fiction commonly indulged in by patrons of the public library, especially the young, is extremely pernicious and mentally unwholesome"; and cites a case in point when the pupils were found to be "literally racing to see which could read the largest number of books per week." It is asked, therefore, whether it "may not be wise to discourage tendencies to excess, or in clearly injurious directions, and thus

limit the whole field of the reader's selection, indirectly, more and more narrowly, to the better, and finally the best? Let it not be forgotten that the primary justification for the existence of the public library as a charge upon the taxpayer is its claim to be an educational institution." Mr. Lane continues:

"The plan proposed as a means of accomplishing this is clearly explained by the accompanying form, and can be easily adopted in conjunction with the Browne charging system, especially if the readers' library envelopes (or, if the modification suggested in the May number—L. J., 24: 102-4—is used, or the equally good plan described in the Library Bureau catalog for 1899—page 72, 'plan 2'—the readers' cards) are of a distinctive color or have a distinguishing mark which will make it easy to select them and to post entries directly from the daily file to a ledger of readers' records or a file of report blanks.

"The graduated scales of adjectives provided may furnish amusement. These imply, it will be noticed, that the 'golden mean' is wisest. Some thought has been put into selecting them, but doubtless they can be improved.

"Reports to guardian or teacher need be made only when requested, and the plan might be impracticable except in places of small or moderate size, unless trial should show its value sufficient to justify a little extra clerical assistance.

"The list of books is from a real case, but they were not read in so short a space of time."

## BLANKVILLE PUBLIC LIBRARY.

March 5, 1902.

DEAR SIR OR MADAM:

The books which have been borrowed during the month of February, 1902, by Charles F. Rick, jr., are as follows:

Author.	Title.	Class.
King	<i>Under the red flag</i>	FICTION*
Baldwin	<i>Horse fair</i>	FICTION
Weyman	<i>King's stratagem</i>	FICTION
Stoddard	<i>Red patriot</i>	FICTION
Barnes	<i>Loyal traitor</i>	FICTION
Westall	<i>For honor and life</i>	FICTION
Stockton	<i>Adventures of Capt. Horn</i>	FICTION
Munroe	<i>Painted desert</i>	FICTION
Browne	<i>Robbery under arms</i>	FICTION
Duval	<i>Romance of the sword</i>	FICTION
Seawell	<i>Virginia Cavalier</i>	FICTION
Lummis	<i>King of the broncos</i>	FICTION
O'Donoghue	<i>Humour of Ireland</i>	HUMOR

It seems to the Librarian that this course of reading is

precocious extraordinary valuable profitable >harmless unprofitable injurious	in kind,	inordinate >excessive generous reasonable moderate abstemious parsimonious	in amount.
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Very respectfully,

PATIENCE WORKWELL, Librarian.

To Mr. Chas. F. Rick,  
73 Lawrence St.

\*Rubber stamp.

## APPOINTMENTS AT THE LIBRARY OF CONGRESS.

IN June several appointments and promotions were made on the force of the Library of Congress, which were the occasion for an interesting outline of the policy adopted in this direction under Mr. Putnam's administration. In an interview given in the *Washington Star*, Mr. Putnam states that the appointments to the eight vacancies existing when he assumed charge of the library have been based on a preliminary temporary service of three months, to be confirmed if satisfactory. In other words, "for each one of the positions a person has been selected who may ultimately qualify. That person has been invited to come into the service of the library temporarily on pay, but with the stipulation that at the end of three months the employment shall cease, unless its continuance, as a regular appointment, be then arranged for."

The appointments were made from the list of 323 applicants, whose applications were received since April 5, 1899, upon the special application form then adopted. No special examinations were given, partly because these were thought to be of chief service in a somewhat different class of positions, partly because the applicants were scattered throughout the United States, so that an examination in Washington would have reached very few, and the library had no machinery for local examinations. "Moreover, the form of application tabulates very fully the alleged qualifications of the applicant, his education and his experience. An inspection of the applications made clear that for these few positions enough persons could be selected of adequate education and special training. They do not tell all of what needs to be known of any applicant, but that cannot be told by a written examination. The work of any given employee in the library is not isolated, but is in association with the work of others. Its effectiveness will depend not merely upon intellectual capacity, education, and training, but also on the more personal qualities of temperament. Each employee is obliged to fit into a machine; this 'fitness' can be tested only by experience."

The plan of selection followed is thus described by Mr. Putnam: "The chief of the department in which the vacancy exists has been requested to furnish a statement of the qualifications in his judgment requisite for that position. Upon the receipt of that statement, which is in writing, all of the applications, the entire 323, with all accompanying papers relating to the applicants, have been turned over to him with instructions to draw off a list of the persons whose qualifications seem to come within the range of those stated by him, and with a further instruction to select not less than three and not exceeding six names of applicants which appear to him worthy of special consideration."

"I have, in the meantime, myself, personally gone over all the papers, and drawn off and minuted, independently, the applications that I considered worthy of special consideration for each particular vacancy. Upon receiving the report of the chief of the department, I have

then gone over with him his list and mine, and agreed upon a single person for each vacancy, whose qualifications shall be especially tested. This test will not be a written examination, but actual work in the service of the library."

"There are now 124 persons in the library service, of whom 98 have been appointed since July 1, 1897. Of these 98 only 12 appear to have had previous library training or experience. As the work on hand of a technical character is far beyond the capacity of the force provided by law, it is obvious that when vacancies occur in positions where technical training can be of use, they should be utilized to bring into the service of the library persons with technical training. In this way alone can the general service be strengthened."

"Not that all of the remaining 86 positions required library training, nor that all of the 86 incumbents lacked serviceable experience. 22 of them had had some experience in business or in public office; 17 others had had a general education in some measure advantageous. But the proportion of expert to inexpert service in the library is less than the pay rolls entitle us to; the expert service is not now sufficient to carry the inexpert."

Mr. Putnam touches interestingly upon the general qualifications for library service, and upon the probable attitude of the library toward an apprentice system. He says: "Excluding the copyright department, there is hardly a position in the library where any amount of education would be wasted. There are some whose duties appear almost purely manual—as those of the attendants in the stacks. But the applications that come to these attendants to handle are often incomplete, and require to be supplemented by some knowledge on the part of the attendant."

"The applications are commonly by title, not by number, and the titles are often in French or German, or some other foreign language. Moreover, the stack attendants having competent knowledge can, in the intervals of their ordinary work, be utilized for other work which may be done at their desks in the stacks; and in the quieter season they may be detailed for service in other departments of the library."

"It is, besides, an advantage, as vacancies occur in the higher grades, to fill them by promotion from the lower. This is possible only when the lower grades furnish persons of requisite general capacity and education beyond their existing positions."

"On the whole, therefore, the broader the general education the better the chances of the applicant. A knowledge of foreign languages, especially of Latin, French, and German—not speaking, but a reading knowledge, is indispensable to many positions, useful in all. And experience in any work involving methodical habit is a decided advantage. The majority of applicants for library work offer only intelligence and willingness and 'a love of books and reading.' Some add cultivation. All these are useful qualifications, but do not cover all that is covered by systematic study, special training, and experience in work requiring close accuracy

and methodical habit. We have frequent inquiries as to whether there is not much work for 'copyists.' It is to be remembered that the modern system of printing the catalog cards reduces the number of mere copyists required for this branch of work.

"There are several persons whose general education has been excellent, and who appear also to have particular personal fitness; whose general qualifications are superior to those of the average graduate of a library school. Some of these persons are living in Washington and would like opportunity to enter the service of the library as volunteers—without pay—for the sake of experience. We have not decided to accept them; and in no case could we accept a volunteer who did not appear likely to return to us in service the equivalent of the expert service we should expend in the training. But we may take on a few such volunteers; limiting the number to, say, six, and the selection absolutely to those who present adequate general education and apparent aptitude, and lack only technical experience.

"We should stipulate absolutely against obligation of any kind. In the case of a vacancy their applications would be considered with the rest. They would have only such additional advantage as would come of our knowledge of their capacities gained in actual service."

Three of the eight vacancies referred to were filled by promotions from the force, thus substituting three minor positions for outside applicants. In making promotions which involved merely increase of salary without change of duties, the determining factor was the certificate of the chief of the particular department, not an examination. "This method, like that adopted for appointments, leaves much to the discretion of the chief of the department. I propose to hold the chief of each department closely responsible for the work of his department. I cannot require responsibility without giving some discretion. If competent he is the best judge of his own tools."

In response to the question whether pressure from outsiders was not frequently brought for the promotion of individual employees, Mr. Putnam said that while some requests or recommendations of the sort were received, "we do not welcome them." He added: "Any testimonial in favor of an applicant for employment may be of value. But where a person is already in the employ of the library no one is so good a judge of his capacity, his work, and his title to promotion as the man who assigns him his work, who supervises it day by day, and who is responsible to me for its quantity and quality, and who is also to be responsible for the work of the position in the higher grade. That man is the chief of the department in which he is employed.

"As to a person already in the service the recommendations of an outsider can tell us nothing; it is irrelevant, and it is unjust. Promotion of one employe involves a preference over other employes. The attempt of an employe to secure this preference by any means other than by superior work is unmanly; the

attempt to secure it by outside influence is an attempt at the meanest advantage over his associates."

The present appointments have supplied all the existing vacancies in the library force, enlargement of which can only be made by act of Congress. Such enlargement, however, is greatly needed, especially in the copyright department and in the catalog department, which includes the order and shelf departments, and which has but half of the force provided by the Boston Public Library for the same amount of current work—leaving the arrears out of account.

### SALARIES, HOURS, AND VACATIONS OF LIBRARY GRADUATES.

THE *Pratt Institute Monthly* for June gives the results of a recent statistical inquiry made by the authorities of the Pratt Institute Library School into the work of its graduates since their graduation. Question blanks were sent to 110 graduates, and 99 responded, of whom only one is not now engaged in library work.

The occupation of the graduates responding are grouped as follows:

Librarians.....	23
Acting librarians.....	1
Assistant librarians.....	5
In charge of branches.....	2
Heads of departments.....	8
Catalogers.....	28
Reference workers..	9
Engaged in children's work....	3
Reorganizing.....	1
Indexing.....	1
Library instructor....	1
Miscellaneous assistants.....	14

Of these positions 75 are permanent, 18 are temporary, and six not specified. Another table shows the length of tenure of the present position, ranging from 16 who have held their positions for less than six months to four who have served for eight and nine years respectively. "An interesting point to note as indicating the demand for trained workers is the time elapsing between graduation and the date of the first position. Six students began work before graduation, eight immediately after, 15 within less than a month, 70 within six months."

On the subject of salaries, the lowest salary is given as \$416, the highest \$2000. "The average salary is \$686. Similar questions were sent out two years ago, the average salary then being \$607. So there has been an average gain of \$79 in two years."

The average salaries for the different kinds of positions are as follows:

Librarian, 22 answers: in 1898, \$808; in 1896, \$712.
Assistant librarian, 3 answers: in 1898, \$700.
Head of branch, 2 answers: in 1898, \$660; in 1896, \$600.
Head of department, 8 answers: in 1898, \$841.

Cataloger, 25 answers: in 1898, \$667; in 1896, \$634.

Reference assistant, 8 answers: in 1898, \$674; in 1896, \$601.

Children's librarians, 3 answers: in 1898, \$622; in 1896, \$570.

General assistants, 16 answers: in 1898, \$555; in 1896, \$520.

The hours of service vary from 24 to 54 a week, with 42½ as an average. The returns as to vacations show 13 with vacations of over one month; 46 with one month; 25 less than one month; with an average of four weeks and five days. 77 receive their salaries during vacation; two receive reduced salaries; one pays a substitute; and four have no salary in vacation. 62 are allowed absence with pay during illness, and 39 are allowed absence for attendance on library meetings.

"To sum up, we find our graduates receive an average salary of \$686 for 42½ hours' work a week, with an average vacation of four weeks and five days, with additional absence allowed for illness and with time allowed for attendance on library meetings. We find also that this average salary is steadily on the increase, that the majority of graduates find positions within three months, and that better salaries are paid for first positions each successive year."

Miss Plummer prefaces the report with a summary of its tendencies. She says: "That the average will continue to rise for a given period is obvious, as those graduates occupying positions in libraries grow to be more valuable through experience, and as their increased value is recognized. Indeed the chief, if not the only menace to just rates of payment would seem to come from a possible influx of untrained or semi-trained apprentices called out of the void by the demand of large public libraries which a defective public sentiment requires to be conducted on a purely commercial basis as regards assistants. That in the long run the school-trained assistant will hold her own I think there is little doubt, but it will only be by doing her best work and then steadily refusing to lower her standard of payment to compete with unskilled labor."

#### THE WILDER (VT.) CLUB AND LIBRARY.

THE dedication of the Club and Library building founded for the benefit of the village of Wilder, Vt., by the late Charles T. Wilder, took place on the afternoon of June 14. This institution is the first of its kind in the state and is most wisely adapted to the community where it is located.

Mr. Wilder bequeathed the sum of \$30,000 for its foundation and maintenance, only \$10,000 of which has been expended on the building and equipments. The building is of red brick with white trimmings, colonial style, commodious and tasteful in all its appointments. The main floor contains a well lighted reading-room, library of 1000 well selected books, audience hall and a room for the meetings of a women's club. In the basement is a fine bowling alley,

billiard room and bath rooms for the men, who are largely operatives in the Wilder Pulp Mill.

The afternoon exercises were attended by the men from the mill with their families and other friends. Prof. James F. Colby, of Dartmouth College, one of the trustees, presided. Brief speeches were made by members of the board of trustees, Mr. Herbert L. Wilder, a brother of the donor, and others, in behalf of the founder and his purpose, the citizens of the village and the operatives of the mill. These were followed by words of appreciation and congratulation from President W. J. Tucker, of Dartmouth College, ex-Governor S. J. Chisholm, president of the International Paper Co., and Miss Bartlett, of the State Library Commission. In the evening of the same day the hall was crowded with an audience of men, women and children, who listened with evident enjoyment to a concert given by the Dartmouth College Glee Club Quartette and Mandolin Club.

LOUISE L. BARTLETT.

#### QUALIFICATIONS FOR LIBRARIANSHIP.

*Dr. A. Leeper in Proceedings of Sydney Meeting, Library Association of Australasia.*

NOT quite 10 years ago the office of public librarian in an important town in Ireland was vacant. There were 160 applicants. Their occupations had been of the most varied description. In many cases the qualifications on which they relied were of a very extraordinary character. One had been a confectioner, another a police constable. Among them were a missionary, an auctioneer, a color-sergeant, and a barman. Another candidate had travelled a great deal, and said he was accustomed to the management of men, and as these were more difficult to manage than books, he felt sure he would succeed. Another relied upon the fact that he had spent five years in Africa. A gentleman who wrote from Yorkshire admitted frankly that he could not speak the Irish language, but that, as he had been informed that the people of the town spoke "broken English," he felt confident that he could make himself understood by the visitors to the library.

There is probably no calling, except perhaps that of a barrister, in which any and every kind of learning is so likely to prove useful some time or other as in the profession of a librarian. Even for cataloging, a man must be highly educated. A mere acquaintance with bibliography and with the *technique* of librarianship will not qualify an unscholarly person to catalog ancient literature. Further, it is possible for precious treasures to pass into a library and remain long unrecognized if the librarian has no eye to see their worth. Let me give an example from the Dublin Library. One of the most interesting portraits of Demosthenes which have yet been found is on a small bas-relief, which early in the 18th century was discovered in the ruins of Hadrian's villa. It was bought by a London dealer, but disappeared from view until some 12 years ago, when it was identified by Dr.

Abbott, the distinguished Dublin librarian, who found it built into a mantelpiece in one of the rooms near the library. There it had remained for nearly 150 years. It now hangs in the great library. Let me give a somewhat similar instance. Henry Bradshaw, the famous Cambridge librarian, perhaps the greatest English librarian of modern times, excepting Panizzi, discovered some valuable, and till then unknown, fragments of early literature in the parchment bindings of old books in the library of Trinity College. That was the feat of a scholar. By the way, one may hint to librarians that, when old volumes come into a library, it is often worth while to inspect any writing on the vellum ends, so much used by the binders of early days.

#### A CHICAGO BIBLIOGRAPHICAL SOCIETY.

PLANS for the organization of a bibliographical society, representing the library interests of Chicago, were recently set afoot. Three preliminary meetings to outline such an organization have been held and the matter is now in the hands of a temporary committee, consisting of A. G. S. Josephson, chairman, John Crerar Library; C. H. Hastings, of the University of Chicago Library, secretary; Miss Mabel McIlvaine, of the Newberry Library; and Prof. F. T. Carpenter, of the University of Chicago. This committee will call a meeting early in the autumn, when a draft of a constitution will be submitted, together with a general outline for the work of the society. It is proposed to combine, if possible, the interests of the practical, scientific bibliographer, and that of the lover and collector of books, although those who have originated the movement have the former interests most at heart. The plan was first considered in discussions between Mr. Josephson, C. H. Hastings, Junl Dieserud, of the Field Columbian Museum, C. B. Roden, of the Chicago Public Library, and S. Stefanson, of the Newberry Library.

#### Library Association of the United Kingdom.

##### ANNUAL MEETING, 1899.

THE annual meeting of the Library Association of the United Kingdom will be held at Manchester, England, during the four days Tuesday, Sept. 5, to Friday, Sept. 8. The business sessions will be presided over by Alderman J. W. Southern, president-elect. The social features will comprise visits to Cheetham's College and Library, Owens College and Library, the Openshaw Branch Library, the Technical School, the Whitworth Gallery and the School of Art, a trip upon the Ship Canal, and a reception at Trafford Park. The presentation of the L. A. U. K. testimonial to Dr. Richard Garnett will be made at this meeting.

##### L. A. U. K. YEARBOOK.

A PUBLICATION that will be welcomed by American as well as English librarians is "The Library Association Yearbook for 1899," edited by Frank Pacy, hon. sec., and published for the association by Horace Marshall & Son (London, 1899. 102 + 2 p. O. 1s. net). This is the first handbook and membership list issued since 1895, and it is practically an indispensable manual of the L. A. U. K. It includes a short historical and descriptive note, list of annual meetings, the full text of the royal charter of the association, obtained in 1898; lists of officers and council for 1898-9; standing committees; and list of fellows and members brought up to April, 1899. This list includes 20 honorary fellows, 19 fellows, 258 members, 134 libraries and institutions and 34 associates. Only 13 women are included among the members. There is an account of the examinations and classes conducted by the association, with specimen examination papers; a chronological list of statutes relating to the public libraries; an outline of the bill proposed by the L. A. U. K. to amend the Public Libraries Acts; a record of branch and affiliated associations; a chronological list of the papers presented at annual and monthly meetings, and a useful index to the authors and subjects of these papers. Appended is a "list of libraries including the principal public (rate supported), state, collegiate, endowed and proprietary libraries of the United Kingdom," compiled by James D. Brown.

#### American Library Association.

*President:* R. G. Thwaites, State Historical Society, Madison, Wis.

*Secretary:* Henry J. Carr, Public Library, Scranton, Pa.

*Treasurer:* Gardner M. Jones, Public Library, Salem, Mass.

##### COMMITTEE APPOINTMENT.

The executive board has appointed the following committee on Handbook of American libraries: F. J. Teggart, T. L. Montgomery, C. W. Andrews. H. J. CARR, *Secretary*.

##### A. L. A. PROCEEDINGS, 1899.

The A. L. A. Proceedings for 1899 were issued in July and have been mailed to all members of the A. L. A. who have paid dues for 1899. Other members will receive the volume on payment of dues to the treasurer.

##### A. L. A. PUBLISHING SECTION.

Printed catalog cards have been issued for the reports of the U. S. National Museum and of the Bureau of Ethnology. Cards for the reports of the Smithsonian Institution are in press. Of all these a few sets have been printed beyond the advance orders. Those wishing these sets should make early application.

Cards are also being prepared for the following:

1. American Association for the Advancement of Science. Proceedings, 1875 - 1898 (Address of the vice-presidents).
2. Depew, Chauncey M., One hundred years of American commerce.
4. Liber scriptorum.
5. New York State Museum Bulletin ; Memoirs.
6. Oxford House papers, 3 series.

### State Library Commissions.

**COLORADO STATE BOARD OF LIBRARY COMMISSIONERS:** C. R. Dudley, chairman, Public Library, Denver.

The board completed its organization on July 15, when C. R. Dudley was chosen chairman, and G. M. Lee, of the Denver Public Library, was appointed secretary. As the board receives no appropriation, its work this year will be confined to giving such information regarding the establishment of libraries, etc., as may be asked for.

**CONNECTICUT F. P. L. COMMITTEE:** Caroline M. Hewins, secretary, Public Library, Hartford, Ct.

**GEORGIA LIBRARY COMMISSION:** Miss Anne Wallace, secretary, Carnegie Library, Atlanta, Ga.

**INDIANA STATE LIBRARY COMMISSION:** W. E. Henry, secretary, State Library, Indianapolis.

**KANSAS STATE LIBRARY COMMISSION:** James L. King, secretary, Topeka.

The state library commission created to maintain a travelling library department in the state library organized on July 17, when J. L. King was elected secretary. The other members are Mrs. A. L. Diggs, state librarian, president; Mrs. James Humphrey, Mrs. A. S. Johnston, Edward Wilder, and M. H. G. Larimer.

**MAINE STATE LIBRARY COMMISSION:** George T. Little, chairman, Bowdoin College Library, Brunswick.

The first meeting of the commission, which was created by act of the last legislature, approved Feb. 23, 1899, was held on June 8, at the office of the state librarian, who is the secretary of the board. Prof. G. T. Little was chosen chairman and executive officer. It was voted that the chairman prepare a list of 200 books to be submitted to the other members for criticism and for additions. It was also voted that the library development of the several congressional districts be placed in individual charge of the several members of the commission.

The work of the commission as outlined does not lie wholly in the direction of travelling libraries. It relates also to the establishment of public libraries in places where there are none. Each member of the board is to canvass his district in the interest of the establishment of public libraries, and in doing this the effort

will be made to secure the co-operation of the different literary and women's clubs.

**MASSACHUSETTS STATE LIBRARY COMMISSION:** Miss E. P. Sohler, secretary, Beverly.

**MICHIGAN STATE LIBRARY COMMISSION:** The governor has appointed the following members of the newly created state library commission: D. D. Aitkin, Flint; Cyrus G. Luce, Coldwater; T. P. Hale, Grosse Pointe; C. H. Hackley, Muskegon.

**NEW HAMPSHIRE STATE LIBRARY COMMISSION:** J. H. Whittier, secretary, East Rochester.

At the Atlanta conference of the American Library Association, Mr. H. W. Denio, of the New Hampshire State Library, gave some interesting facts regarding the work done by the commission. He said that there are now in 66 towns 67 free public libraries, established without state aid; in 138 towns, 138 free public libraries, established with state aid. 15 towns are accumulating a library fund, *i. e.*, raising an annual tax and holding it; 14 towns are annually voting it "inexpedient to establish" a free library. "This accounts for the entire state, excepting a few unincorporated places having a population of less than 400 people. There are in addition 11 other free libraries, and 61 other libraries of various kinds in the state. The total number of volumes for the free libraries is 465,682, and the total appropriations for 1898 was \$49,878.67."

**NEW YORK:** Public Libraries Division, State University, Melvil Dewey, director, Albany.

**OHIO STATE LIBRARY COMMISSION:** C. B. Galbreath, secretary, State Library, Columbus.

The Ohio Library Commission has issued a useful little handbook, entitled "The new library: a few practical suggestions, which is designed to arouse and foster interest in modern library development." It is modelled in part upon the handbooks of the Wisconsin Free Library Commission, and is devoted to simple instructive notes regarding the need of libraries, first principles of organization, book selection, management, etc., with information concerning state and national library associations, library schools, etc. The appendix includes the library laws of Ohio, a reference list of "aids and guides in library economy," sample "rules for borrowers in a small library, suggestions, by-laws, list of aids in selecting books," etc. The handbook was compiled by the library extension committee of the Ohio Library Association.

**VERMONT FREE LIBRARY COMMISSION:** Miss M. L. Titcomb, secretary, Goodrich Memorial Library, Newport.

The Vermont Free Library Commission has issued a classed list of recent "books recommended to Vermont libraries." This includes about 175 titles, and is a fairly varied and comprehensive selection.

**WISCONSIN FREE LIBRARY COMMISSION:** F. A. Hutchins, secretary, Madison; Miss L. E. Stearns, librarian, Milwaukee.



## State Library Associations.

### CALIFORNIA LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.

*President:* F. J. Teggart, Mechanics' Institute Library, San Francisco.

*Secretary:* R. E. Cowan, 829 Mission Street, San Francisco.

*Treasurer:* Miss Emily I. Wade, Public Library, San Francisco.

### COLORADO LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.

*President:* A. E. Whitaker, State University Library, Boulder.

*Secretary:* Herbert E. Richle, City Library, Denver.

*Treasurer:* J. W. Chapman, McClelland Library, Pueblo.

### CONNECTICUT LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.

*President:* W. J. James, Wesleyan University Library, Middletown.

*Secretary:* Miss J. S. Heydrick, Pequot Library, Southport.

*Treasurer:* Miss Alice T. Cummings, Public Library, Hartford.

The Connecticut Library Association met June 23, 1899, in the Phoebe Griffin Noyes Library, Old Lyme, Ct. William J. James, president of the association, presided.

Papers were read and discussed as follows:

"Libraries and the evolution of the reading habit," by Dr. Ernest C. Richardson, librarian of Princeton University. He said in part:

"The public library helps first, the development of the reading habit in the individual; and second, its development in the community. The reading habit is worth developing (1) as a time-killer. Among children, at least, and among the idle and frivolous classes the habit of reading as a mere time-killer helps to keep from evil. It is worth developing (2) because it tends to improve the individual; every new bit of information adds to the value of a man's mind, and there are few books so poor that they do not directly add something to a man's power for his own enjoyment, his ability to help others, and his general value to a community. If it is true, as scripture and science say, that our very self is the sum total of our ideas, the quantity and kind of our knowledge is very important. The work of the public school in education covers a few years of childhood; the public library continues the work through life. The diffusion of general intelligence in a nation determines its position among the nations, because in the development of the multitude of intelligences there is sure to be a certain percentage of superior intelligences, and these are the ones which lead progress through invention and administration. Finally, libraries help to develop the reading habit in a community, especially by tempting men to become readers."

"To Atlanta and back," by Caroline M. Hewins, librarian of the Hartford Public Library, was read, in Miss Hewins' absence, by F. B. Gay. Of the six chapters giving a graphic account of the trip, we quote part of

the third, covering the days spent at Atlanta and Lithia:

"So many er de nabors come in 'sponse ter de invite dat dey batter put de 'lasses in de wash pot en bil' de fier in de yard."

"Dey had der camp-meetin' times en der bobbycues wen de wedder wus 'greeble."—*Uncle Remus.*

"At the barbecue grounds, a few miles out of town, we had not the traditional ox roasted whole, but eight or ten sheep and young pigs or 'shoats.' The south is full of pigs, white, black, and spotted, and there is even a long-haired Titian-red species on the eastern shore of Maryland. The carcasses were roasted on spits and carefully basted with a rag on a long pole over a trench filled with hickory coals which had been burning 12 or 14 hours. Not far off, Brunswick stew was cooking in a large cauldron. The fat colored mammy, who presided over the cooking, when asked to pose for her photograph laughed and said, 'I reckon you want it to skeer de rabbits,' but she was at last persuaded. We were entertained until the barbecue was ready by a Lard-can quartette of negroes, who sang and danced, and played on a large tin can. The meat, which was deliciously tender, was cut up and set on long tables in enamelled zinc pans. Brunswick stew, which is hotter than anything except curried lobster made by an East Indian, was passed around, and we fell to. A true barbecue has no knives or forks, but they were allowed as a concession to our northern ignorance. After the feast was over we had witty speeches, funny stories, and a clever monologue of an old woman catching chickens for supper, by Mrs. Moore, of Atlanta, who is well known as a writer of dialect and character sketches under the name of Cousin Betsy Hamilton. The Atlanta papers commented on the refreshed appearance of the tired librarians after the barbecue, and no wonder!"

Three-minute speeches on the conference by Helen E. Haines, Dr. Richardson, and Josephine S. Heydrick, followed.

After a pleasant intermission, during which luncheon was served, the program was continued.

"Some literary sinners," by Charlotte M. Holloway, of New London, read by Miss Mary Richardson, dealt with the characteristics of modern novelists, and of Thomas Hardy in particular. The old aim of fiction was to interest and entertain, instruct and amuse, and mayhap inspire. But to-day a certain type of novelist views with scorn the efforts of those who wrought on these lines. His object is to interest and depress, to express what should be repressed, to teach us we have no right to be happy. In a word, the modern novel is said to be real. It is likely to be psychological, sociological, socialistic, analytical, critical, political, physiological, metaphysical, religious. Of all the authors there is none who leave such a deep sense of misery as Hardy, the apostle of the tragedy of unfulfilled aim. As for his women, Hardy is said to be a master of feminine depiction. This should be amended to read of certain types of femininity. The whole

of them have not enough of true womanliness to flavor one fine character.

"Notes on some library literature," by Helen E. Haines of the *LIBRARY JOURNAL*, related to topics of special interest to librarians, as the following summary indicates.

Library literature, in the general acceptance of the term, presumes literature dealing with libraries; in the present case it must be taken to mean the literature of libraries, the printed matter emanating from a library through which its work and its aims are made known.

Reports afford at once the best and worst examples of library literature. Every library should print its annual report. This is a question over which many of the smaller libraries hesitate, but it is practically not a question at all. A small printed folder is within the reach of any library, and should be a useful aid in its work. The emphasis upon statistics is one of the great defects of library reports.

Whether a printed catalog is necessary in a small library is sometimes questioned. Perhaps with free access it is not absolutely necessary, but it is always desirable and generally it is essential. If the printing of the entire catalog is financially impossible, there can at least be successive class lists, beginning with fiction, following with history, biography, travel, etc., until the various divisions are covered. Annotations, unless they represent thorough and careful work, are a snare to the unwary. It is better to give a simple, clear, well-classified list, than to attempt original, critical or descriptive notes.

The local newspaper provides some of the most useful and effective library literature. It can bring library news to all the people of a community as the official publications can hardly do, and through interesting articles and announcements of new plans of work can be of great practical value in making the library better known and more widely used.

Before adjournment, an invitation was received from the Ansonia Library to hold the fall meeting there.

JOSEPHINE S. HEYDRICK, *Secretary*.

#### GEORGIA LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.

*President:* Miss Anne Wallace, Young Men's Library, Atlanta.

*Secretary-Treasurer:* C. W. Hubner, Atlanta.

#### ILLINOIS STATE LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.

*President:* E. S. Willcox, Public Library, Peoria.

*Secretary:* Miss M. E. Ahern, *Public Libraries*, 215 Madison St., Chicago.

*Treasurer:* Mrs. Josephine Resor, Public Library, Canton.

#### INDIANA LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.

*President:* W. E. Henry, State Library, Indianapolis.

*Secretary:* Miss Belle S. Hanna, Public Library, Greencastle.

*Treasurer:* Miss Jessie Allen, Public Library, Indianapolis.

#### IOWA STATE LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.

*President:* W. H. Johnston, Public Library, Fort Dodge.

*Secretary and Treasurer:* Miss Ella McLoney, Public Library, Des Moines.

The annual meeting of the Iowa Library Association will be held at Cedar Rapids, Nov. 9 and 10. Among those who will present papers will be Melvil Dewey, Miss L. E. Stearns, and Miss M. E. Ahern.

#### MAINE LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.

*President:* E. W. Hall, Colby University, Waterville.

*Treasurer:* Prof. G. T. Little, Bowdoin College, Brunswick.

#### MASSACHUSETTS LIBRARY CLUB.

*President:* W. H. Tillinghast, Harvard University Library.

*Secretary:* H. C. Wellman, Public Library, Brookline.

*Treasurer:* Miss Margaret D. McGuffey, Public Library, Boston.

A meeting of the Massachusetts Library Club was held in Plymouth on Monday and Tuesday, June 26-27. On the arrival of the members on Monday afternoon they were admitted to Pilgrim Hall, which had been kept open later than usual for the club.

The first session was opened at 7.45 p.m., with Mr. W. H. Tillinghast, the president, in the chair. Mr. William Hedge, president of the directors of the Plymouth Public Library, welcomed the club most cordially. Rev. Mr. C. P. Lombard, pastor of the First Church of Plymouth (Unitarian), also added a few words.

Miss Alice G. Chandler, of Lancaster, read the first paper on the program, "The library art club." She gave an account of its history, and what was being accomplished. At the close of the paper several librarians gave testimony as to the favorable attitude of people toward the picture exhibitions.

The order of the program was changed, and Mr. C. K. Bolton read his paper on "Bulletin boards and special lists." He considered them both as a means of indoor advertising, the library being considered as a mercantile enterprise. He advocated the cutting up of some periodical for use on the bulletin board, and suggested that the trustees allow the librarian to spend a small sum (15 cents) per week for this purpose. He ended by saying that nothing advertises a library so well as a capable librarian.

Mr. Tillinghast urged that the name of the librarian be on the bulletin board, and on the printed lists, and showed the wisdom of this by detailing some of his experiences on visiting libraries.

Open shelves used all the time there was left before the time for closing. Mrs. Sanders began by reporting the discussion held at Atlanta. She was followed by several who told of how open shelves were being tried. One member reported that open shelves were not all the

fancy painted, when the books were covered. Every book looking like every other offered no inducements except that of size, possibly. As Mrs. Sanders covers her books and has open shelves the discussion branched off into a lively discussion on covers.

The next morning the weather was still favorable and the members were given an electric car ride along the shore to the head of the beach, by invitation of the Plymouth Public Library. This was followed by the second session at 10.30.

Mr. Sam Walter Foss, of the Somerville Public Library, gave an account of the impression made by the A. L. A. conference at Atlanta "on the perfectly innocent mind," the latter belonging to Mr. Foss himself, who had at Atlanta his first experience of an A. L. A. meeting. The impression was favorable.

Mr. W. E. Foster followed with an admirable paper on the "Possibilities of library bulletins." Mr. John G. Moulton, of the Brockton Public Library, took up the "Printing and distributing of bulletins," and the last paper on the program was by Miss Caroline A. Blanchard, of the Tufts Library, Weymouth, on "Using other people's bulletins." These papers are printed in full elsewhere.

Mr. G. M. Jones exhibited some specimens of English bulletins. These are, as a rule, published quarterly, and often contain much matter of general literary or local historical interest. Several contain illustrations printed from blocks furnished by publishers.

After dinner the social side of the meeting was continued on the boat to Boston, where at 6.30 the members scattered.

NINA E. BROWNE, *Recorder*.

#### WESTERN MASSACHUSETTS LIBRARY CLUB.

*President:* H. H. Ballard, Berkshire Athenæum, Pittsfield.

*Secretary:* Miss F. Mabel Winchell, Forbes Library, Northampton.

*Treasurer:* Miss Mary M. Robison, Free Library, Amherst.

The Western Massachusetts Library Club held its first annual meeting in the town hall at Amherst on Tuesday, June 13. The morning session opened at 10.30 with an address of welcome by President Goodell, of the Massachusetts Agricultural College, in which he applied the inscription placed over the most ancient library in the world—"For the healing of the soul"—to the modern library of to-day. Mr. Goodell gave an interesting talk on "The literary folk of Amherst," naming Edward Tuckerman, Dr. Hitchcock, Professor Adams, Dr. Dallas Helen Hunt, President Stearns, Emily Ford, Professor Tyler, Jacob Abbott, Eugene Field, and Emily Dickinson among those who have at some time made the town their home.

Mr. Fletcher reported from the Atlanta conference, with introductory remarks on the journey thence, including his impressions received during a few days' stay in Washington. The isolation of the south makes the mission

of the travelling library doubly important there. Mr. Cutter reported on the social features of the conference, and was especially struck with the difference between the subjects discussed by the early A. L. A. conferences and those of to-day. Details and technicalities have given place on the program to the broader subjects of library extension, the evolution of books, etc., etc.

Mr. Dana gave a clear and forcible presentation of the "Library work of the National Educational Association," setting forth the value of the coming report of the committee on "The relations of public libraries to public schools," which will form a most important handbook on the subject.

The question box, conducted by Mr. Ballard, brought out interesting discussion, and the session adjourned to participate in an enjoyable trolley ride to Riverside Park at North Amherst, where lunch was served, after which the libraries of North Amherst and of the Massachusetts Agricultural College were visited.

The afternoon session opened at 3.15 with a business meeting, at which the following officers were elected: President, H. H. Ballard, librarian Berkshire Athenæum, Pittsfield; Vice-presidents, W. I. Fletcher, Miss C. Augusta Dunton, librarian North Adams Public Library; Secretary, Miss F. Mabel Winchell, first assistant Forbes Library, Northampton; Treasurer, Miss Mary M. Robison, librarian Amherst Free Library.

The report of the secretary showed a membership of 52. Seven libraries are co-operating in the work of preparing an index to the Springfield *Republican* under Mr. Fletcher's supervision.

"Books that children like" was the subject of a talk by Miss Hewins, in which she gave extracts from letters written by the children of the Hartford schools, describing the books they had enjoyed from the Public Library.

Mr. Ballard proposed the following line of inquiry to be carried out by discussion and circulars:

Nearly a million books are annually circulated in Massachusetts west of Worcester.

How are these books selected by the public? What impulses direct the choice? What percentage is chosen directly from a consultation of the catalog?

What percentage owes its selection to the library bulletin?

What is due to the advice and influence of teachers? What is selected from an inspection of the books themselves?

What is attributed to advertisements and reviews?

What is chosen for patrons by library officials?

Does style of type, paper, and general paragraphic arrangement enter into the question, and how far? Does the color of the binding influence the choice of books?

On motion of Mr. Dana it was voted that the executive committee set on foot inquiries into the causes leading to the selection of books by the public. It was also voted that inquiries be

instituted for furthering the distribution of books to remote parts of towns.

*Alice Shepard, Secretary.*

**MICHIGAN LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.**

*President:* H. M. Utley, Public Library, Detroit.

*Secretary:* Mrs. A. F. McDonnell, Bay City.

*Treasurer:* Miss Genevieve M. Walton, Normal College Library, Ypsilanti.

**MINNESOTA LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.**

*President:* Dr. W. W. Folwell, State University, Minneapolis.

*Secretary:* Miss Gratia Countryman, Public Library, Minneapolis.

*Treasurer:* Miss Anne Hammond, Public Library, St. Paul.

**NEBRASKA LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.**

*President:* W. E. Jillson, Doane College, Crete.

*Secretary:* Miss Edith Tobitt, Public Library, Omaha.

*Treasurer:* Miss M. A. O'Brien, Public Library, Omaha.

**NEW HAMPSHIRE LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.**

*President:* A. H. Chase, Concord.

*Secretary:* Miss Grace Blanchard, Public Library, Concord.

*Treasurer:* Miss E. A. Pickering, Public Library, Newington.

**NEW JERSEY LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.**

*President:* F. P. Hill, Free Public Library, Newark.

*Secretary:* Miss Clara W. Hunt, Free Public Library, Newark.

*Treasurer:* Miss Cecelia C. Lambert, Public Library, Passaic.

**NEW YORK LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.**

*President:* A. L. Peck, Public Library, Gloversville.

*Secretary:* W. R. Eastman, State Library, Albany.

*Treasurer:* J. N. Wing, Free Circulating Library, 226 W. 42d st., New York City.

The annual meeting of the New York State Library Association will be held at Niagara Falls, N. Y., in September.

**OHIO LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.**

*President:* Robinson Locke, Toledo.

*Secretary:* Charles Orr, Case Library, Cleveland.

*Treasurer:* Miss K. W. Sherwood, Public Library, Cincinnati.

*Fifth annual meeting:* Toledo, O., Aug. 9 and 10, 1899.

**PENNSYLVANIA LIBRARY CLUB.**

*President:* Dr. E. J. Nolan, Academy of Natural Sciences, Philadelphia.

*Secretary:* Miss Mary P. Farr, Philadelphia Normal School.

*Treasurer:* Miss Jean E. Graffen, Free Library of Philadelphia.

**WESTERN PENNSYLVANIA LIBRARY CLUB.**

*President:* Miss Helen Sperry, Carnegie Library, Homestead.

*Secretary-Treasurer:* Miss Mary F. Macrum, Carnegie Library, Pittsburgh.

**VERMONT LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.**

*President:* Miss S. C. Hagar, Fletcher Free Library, Burlington.

*Secretary:* Miss M. L. Titcomb, Goodrich Memorial Library, Newport.

*Treasurer:* E. F. Holbrook, Proctor.

**WISCONSIN STATE LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.**

*President:* Mrs. Charles S. Morris, Berlin.

*Secretary:* Miss Minnie M. Oakley, State Historical Society, Madison.

*Treasurer:* Miss Nellie C. Silverthorn, Public Library, Wausau.

The Wisconsin State Library Association will hold a "summer meeting and outing" at Madison, Wis., Thursday to Saturday, Aug. 24-26, 1899. It is intended to make the meeting wholly informal in character, the keynote being recreation and inspiration.

The regular sessions will be held at the law building of the university, and will open at two o'clock on Thursday, with an address by the president, Mrs. Charles S. Morris. Talks will then be given on the various uses of pictures in libraries, schools, and homes.

In the evening there will be held, on the shores of Lake Monona, a picnic supper and camp fire, made further enjoyable with song and story.

On Friday morning and afternoon there will be interesting talks and discussions on numerous subjects—among them, library administration, the use of libraries from the borrower's standpoint, "library cranks" and book agents, the progress and the present outlook of library work in Wisconsin, children's reading, library trustees, library assistants, contact with the public, the American Library Association, and the collecting of periodicals.

Friday evening there will be a moonlight excursion on Lake Mendota or other social entertainment.

If deemed advisable, a session will be held on Saturday morning.

A question box will form one of the features of the meeting, and opportunity will be given for discussion.

The meeting will permit visits to the state historical, state university, and Madison city libraries, the headquarters of the state library commission, the new state historical library building, the capitol, state university, and other places of interest. As it comes immediately at the close of the sessions of the summer library school it will be possible for the students of the school to attend.

Information regarding boarding places, etc., may be obtained from the secretary.

**NORTH WISCONSIN TRAVELLING LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.**

*President:* Mrs. E. E. Vaughn, Ashland.

*Secretary and Treasurer:* Miss Janet Green, Vaughn Library, Ashland.

A library convention was held at Ashland, July 10-11, under the joint auspices of the North Wisconsin Travelling Library Association and the state library commission. Dr. Ellis presided. A paper on "The need of public libraries in Northern Wisconsin" was read by Rev. S. H. Murphy, and Rev. Stanley E. Lathrop gave a report of the work done by the association. He exhibited a map showing the location of the 22 travelling libraries thus far sent out, and said that 300 more such libraries could be used at once to advantage in this great and needy field of northern Wisconsin. Other papers were "The relation of clubs to libraries," by Mrs. M. S. Hosmer, and "Travelling pictures," by Mrs. E. A. Shores. In the evening a stereopticon lecture on "Public and travelling libraries in America" was given by Miss L. E. Stearns, and a reception followed.

The second day's session opened with an address by Mrs. A. C. Neville, president of the state federation of women's clubs; papers were also read on "Village and town improvement" by Mrs. G. B. Ide, "How to start permanent libraries," by F. F. Morgan, and "Amusement rooms," by Mrs. A. W. Sanborn.

### Library Clubs.

#### BAY PATH LIBRARY CLUB.

*President:* Miss Helen S. Carter, Leicester, Mass.

*Secretary:* C. H. Clark, West Brookfield, Mass.

*Treasurer:* Miss Nellie A. Cutter, Spencer, Mass.

#### LIBRARY CLUB OF BUFFALO.

*President:* H. L. Elmendorf, Public Library.

*Secretary-Treasurer:* Miss Elizabeth D. Renninger, Catholic Institute.

#### CHICAGO LIBRARY CLUB.

*President:* C. B. Roden, Public Library, Chicago.

*Secretary:* Miss Irene Warren, Chicago Normal School.

*Treasurer:* Miss M. E. Ahern, *Public Libraries*, 215 Madison st., Chicago.

#### NEW YORK LIBRARY CLUB.

*President:* Dr. J. S. Billings, N. Y. Public Library.

*Secretary:* Miss Pauline Leipziger, Aguilar Library.

*Treasurer:* Miss Harriet Husted, Y. W. C. A. Library.

#### LIBRARY ASSOCIATION OF WASHINGTON CITY.

*President:* Dr. H. Carrington Bolton, Cosmos Club.

*Secretary:* W. L. Boyden, Librarian Supreme Council 33° A.A. Order of Scottish Rite.

*Treasurer:* T. L. Cole, Statute Law Book Co.

*Meetings:* Second Wednesday evening of each month.

### Library Schools and Training Classes.

#### DREXEL INSTITUTE LIBRARY SCHOOL.

At the commencement exercises of the Institute on June 9, 16 graduates in the library school received certificates as follows: Alvaretta Porter Abbott, Grace Peckham Baldwin, Roberta Bolling, Louise Frances Buhrman, Virginia Carter Castleman, Caspar Gregory Dickson, A.B., Edith Newlin Gawthrop, Margaret Hill Hilles, A. B., Laura Bell Hixson, Marjorie Louisa Holmes, Elizabeth Sage Ingersoll, Hetty Stuart Johnson, Annie F. Petty, Flora B. Roberts, Marion Estes Stanger, Virginia Weeks. Miss Castleman, of the graduating class, wrote the words for the commencement song.

The graduates of the class, with only two exceptions, have immediately entered upon their library career. The following are the positions they have received:

Miss Grace P. Baldwin has been engaged as cataloger of the Worcester County Law Library, Worcester, Mass.

Miss Annie F. Petty will begin her duties as librarian of the State Normal School, Greensboro, N. C., in August.

Miss Hilles and Miss Roberta Bolling have been appointed temporary catalogers at Haverford College Library, Haverford, Pa.

Nine of the graduates have been added to the temporary staff of catalogers at the Library of the University of Pennsylvania.

Miss Marjorie L. Holmes has gone to the Public Library of Washington, D. C., as temporary cataloger.

#### NEW YORK STATE LIBRARY SCHOOL.

The school year closed with no formal exercises, Friday, June 23.

#### PERSONAL NOTES.

Several changes of positions among students are recorded here instead of in the "Librarian's" column:

The Cincinnati Public Library has engaged Bertha Emilie Rombauer, graduate, class '99, Harriet Ann Wood, 1897-98, and Henry Duncan Burnet, 1898-99, to assist in the catalog department.

The New York State Library has made the following appointments: Arnold Johan Ferdinand van Laer, class '99, sub-librarian Manuscripts Division; Charles Allcott Flagg, B.L.S., class '97, sub-librarian History Division; Arthur Low Bailey, B.L.S., class '98, sub-librarian accession department; Phineas Lawrence Windsor, class '99, assistant in Law Division; Jennie Dorcas Fellows, class '97, is assisting in the rush of the A. L. A. catalog supplement.

The University of Pennsylvania in its extension plan of reorganizing numbers among its large force, Jane Atkinson, 1895-96, Mrs. J. F. H. Mathews, and Catherine McCall, 1897-98.

The Worcester Public Library in enlarging and perfecting its catalog department is using the services of Mary S. Terwilliger, class '97, Irene Stewart and Gertrude P. Wood, 1898-99.

Henrietta R. Palmer, graduate '89, who was temporarily engaged there, has been appointed librarian of the New Jersey Historical Society.

The Young Men's Christian Association of New York, in its new building and under the leadership of Mr. Silas H. Berry, the new librarian, has given up the British Museum form of catalog and adopted the card catalog in drawers. Four of our students were engaged to work on the new catalog—George Watson Cutler Stockwell, class '95; Winifred Arria Herron, 1894-95; Jessica G. Cone, graduate, class '95; and Edith Van Allen, 1898-99, of whom Miss Herron and Miss Van Allen are still in service. Mr. Stockwell is now librarian of the Westfield (Mass.) Athenæum.

Edna Dean Bullock, graduate, class '94, has been appointed classifier and cataloger at the Iowa State Library.

Caroline Mayhew Daggett, 1897-98, is head cataloger in the Central Library, Syracuse, N. Y., and also instructor in cataloging in Syracuse University.

Days Elizabeth Defendorf, 1898-99, has been appointed assistant librarian of Wesleyan University, Middletown, Ct.

Almena Rebecca De Puy, 1896-97, has been engaged to make a new catalog for the Galesburg (Ill.) Public Library.

Ethel Garvin, class '98, holds a position in the Forbes Library, Northampton, Mass.

Julia Anna Hopkins, 1895-96, resigned her position as reference librarian at the Reynolds Library, Rochester, N. Y., which she has held since 1896, to become assistant in Bryn Mawr College Library.

Philip S. Goulding, 1898-99, has been appointed classifier at the New Hampshire State Library.

Miss Josephine Adelaide Clarke, 1888-89, Miss Margaret Drake McGuffey, class '95, and Miss Jane B. Haines, class 1900, are spending the summer abroad.

Askel Gustav Salomon Josephson, 1893-94, was married April 27 to Miss Engberg, of Chicago.

Alice Newman, class '95, was married June 29 in the Houghton memorial chapel, at Wellesley College, to Mr. Martin T. Nachtmann.

SALOME CUTLER FAIRCHILD.

#### PRATT INSTITUTE LIBRARY SCHOOL.

##### GRADUATION, 1899.

17 STUDENTS of the first year course and three of the second year historical course were graduated this year; two of the first year and one of the second year class having withdrawn by reason of illness. Certificates were awarded as follows:

*First year:* Julia M. Benton, Bertha Frances, Mabel A. Frothingham, Susan M. Griggs, Mary A. Kingsbury, Margaret W. Lee, Esther B. Owen, Lizzie L. Parker, Amy L. Phelan, Mabel Shryock, Eleanor M. Sunderland, Lida V. Thompson, Christine S. Trepp, Florence A. Watts, Jessie Welles, Bertha S. Wildman, Grace R. Wright.

*Second year:* Carrie C. Dennis, Abbie R. Knapp, Julia T. Rankin.

#### PERSONAL NOTES.

Miss Elsie Adams, class of '98, has left the Polytechnic Library, Brooklyn, to become cataloger at the Aguilar Free Library, New York.

Miss Caroline L. Koster, class of '93, has resigned her position in the library of the Long Island Historical Society in order to take the course for the training of children's librarians at the Pratt Institute Library School next winter.

Miss Charlotte E. Wallace, class of '97, will specialize for the work with children the coming year.

Of the class of '99, the following have permanent positions: Miss Margaret W. Lee, assistant in the Y. M. C. A. Library, Brooklyn; Miss Christine S. Trepp, cataloger in the Y. M. C. A., New York; Miss Florence A. Watts, assistant in the Pratt Institute Free Library; Miss Jessie Wells, assistant in the Carnegie Library of Pittsburgh; Miss Grace R. Wright, assistant at the Astral Branch, Pratt Institute Free Library.

Miss Lida V. Thompson, class of '99, has been appointed cataloger in the Worcester County Law Library, Worcester, Mass.

Miss Harriot E. Hessler, of the same class and course, has been appointed assistant for the children's department of the Carnegie Library of Pittsburgh.

Eight members of the class of '99 have gone to the University of Pennsylvania Library to assist in the work of reorganization.

#### UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS STATE LIBRARY SCHOOL.

##### GRADUATION, 1899.

FOLLOWING is the list of graduates of the Illinois State Library School, who received their certificates on June 14, 1899:

##### *Theses.*

- |                    |   |
|--------------------|---|
| Jane E. Cook,      | Publishers and their specialties.   |
| Edna Fairchild,    | Bibliography of pre-Raphaelitism.   |
| Emma R. Jutton,    | Co-operation between the public libraries and the public schools of Illinois. |
| Marian E. Sparks,  | Founding a public library in Illinois.  |
| Laura A. Streight, | Bibliography of the geology of Illinois.                                      |

KATHARINE L. SHARP, *Director.*

#### UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN SUMMER SCHOOL.

THE summer school will close its session the last week in August, after what promises to be a most successful season. The class is very full, 36 students being in attendance. One of the most interesting addresses delivered before the school was given on July 28, by Bishop Messmer, of Green Bay, on Catholic literature for public libraries. Many of the students will attend the summer meeting of the Wisconsin Library Association, to be held Aug. 24-26.

## Library Economy and History.

## GENERAL.

**LIBRARY ASSOCIATION OF AUSTRALASIA** (founded 1896). Proceedings of the Sydney meeting, October, 1898; with three appendices, the program, guide to the loan exhibition, and library statistics of New South Wales. Sydney, Hennessey, Harper & Co., 1899. 6 + 136 + 4 + 40 + 14 p. O.

The Sydney meeting of the Australasian library association was reported in *L. J.* 23: 667. The papers are now printed in a substantial octavo, which includes also a summary of the proceedings and other material, and they are interesting evidence of the variety of the subjects treated. The topics range from brief outlines of the D. C., the Cutter numbers, and similar technical themes, through descriptions of travelling library work, children's rooms, and home libraries, to discussions of the fiction question, state subsidies, book trade and copyright matters. Most of the papers are short, and the volume is of general library interest, though it includes much that is an old story to American librarians. The statistical appendix, covering 14 pages, gives elaborate data concerning the libraries of New South Wales, of which the majority are maintained in connection with mechanics' institutes, literary societies, and schools of art. In all, 262 such institutions are listed.

*The Pratt Institute Monthly* for June is the second annual "Library number." It continues the series of sketches of "Some eminent librarians," with accounts and portraits of Miss Valborg Platou, librarian of the Free Library of Bergen, Sweden, and of Herbert Putnam. There are several short papers on library topics, including an outline of the course in Latin palaeography, taken by the second-year class of the Pratt Institute Library School, and the report on salaries, hours, and vacations, summarized elsewhere.

## LOCAL.

**Atlanta, Ga. Carnegie L.** There has been a block in the arrangements for the new building, owing to the inability of the library board to agree as to a site. Several meetings have been held but no decision has been reached. The board stands seven to five on the subject, the majority being in favor of a site near Pryor and Houston streets, the others desiring to retain the present site on Marietta street; a majority of two-thirds of the 12 directors is necessary for action.

**Baltimore, Enoch Pratt F. L.** At a recent meeting of the board of trustees the age limit was reduced from 14 to 12 years.

**Branford, Ct. Blackstone Memorial L.** The librarian's report for the year ending June 30, '99, gives the following statistics: Added 1061; total 8728. Issued, home use 30,661 (fict. and juv. 78.1 %). Total registration 1679.

Many special lists have been printed in the local papers and bulletined in the library.

"From time to time exhibitions of pictures on subjects of special interest have been held. At the time of the coronation of the Queen of Holland a collection of photographs and other pictures pertaining to that country were displayed. Photographs of Madonnas were shown at Christmas time. Later, pictures pertaining to Great Britain were shown. Some colored plates of our common birds were hung, for the second time, in the spring, at the time of the bird lectures. An exhibition of the work in drawing by pupils in the public schools is now in progress."

The Scribner exhibit of Revolutionary pictures were on exhibition in the library's art galleries from July 6-27, 1899. The galleries were open every week-day afternoon from two until five, and on Monday and Thursday evenings. During the three weeks there were 1611 visitors—a good record for a town of 5000, though the summer residents increase the population during the summer months.

**Brooklyn, N. Y. Sylvester Malone L.** The new Sylvester Malone Library in the Henry McCadden Memorial Building, Berry street, was opened on July 22.

**Brooklyn (N. Y.) P. L.** The central branch of the library, at 26 Brevoort place, was opened for the circulation of books on Monday, July 24.

**Brooklyn (N. Y.) P. L. A.** The small library established by the association in Tompkins Park was opened on the afternoon of July 20.

**Buffalo, N. Y. Grosvenor L.** The library has secured the poetical collection of Charles Wells Moulton, of Buffalo, formerly editor and publisher of the *Magazine of Poetry*, which includes some 2000 volumes, mostly by contemporary writers. Very many of the books contain autograph inscriptions or are accompanied by autograph letters. Mr. Moulton will present to the library his collection of portraits of authors represented in his library.

**Cleveland (O.) P. L.** Before the schools closed the school children of the second to the eighth grades received the following circular, which was distributed through the teachers:

*To the Boys and Girls of the Cleveland Schools:*

"You are cordially invited to visit frequently, during your long summer vacation, the Public Library or the branch which is nearest your home.

"You will find there, in the thousands of books and pictures collected for your use, a great source of entertainment and pleasure. The cool, quiet library is a place to remember and go to when it is too hot and dusty to play out of doors, and if you can not get to the woods and fields, an interesting book is the best thing to help forget the heat and discomforts of such days.

"If you have no card to draw books on, ask for one at the library. There is no charge for a card, and it costs nothing to read there or to draw books to take home, so long as one keeps

the rules, which are easy to learn and remember.

"We wish you a pleasant vacation and hope that the library may help to make it so for you.

W. H. BRETT, *Librarian.*"

On the reverse was printed a list of the various branches and school stations of the library.

It is probable that the library board will formulate a bill to be presented to the next general assembly, authorizing bonds for the establishment of a library school. The matter has been referred to a committee, which will report to the board. Mr. Brett has expressed himself in favor of such a school, preferably to be located as an adjunct of one of the branch libraries.

*Columbia University L., New York.* The report of the retiring librarian, G. H. Baker, for the year ending June 30, 1899, gives the following facts: Added 25,404, of which 5141 were gifts, being the largest annual growth the library has ever made; total above 275,000 v., a collection "exceeded in numbers by no university library in America except that of Harvard, unless the undetermined and undeterminable extent of the Chicago University Library should be thought to exceed the above figure." "An unusually rich collection of material on the Philippine Islands has been formed, including many Spanish works and books printed in Manila." There were 77,260 v. loaned for use out of the building.

"Columbia University Library now consists, as far as the public is concerned, of a general reading-room, the law reading-room, the Avery Architectural reading-room, 18 special reading-rooms or seminar-rooms in the library building, and 20 departmental libraries, of greater or less extent, each with certain reading-room facilities."

*Dallas (Tex.) P. L. A.* The hard work of the members of the association to secure subscriptions toward a public library building has resulted in a fund of \$10,000. It is hoped that additional subscriptions may be obtained to make the desired total of \$15,000.

*Danville (N. Y.) P. L. A.* The 25th anniversary of the library was celebrated on July 18.

*Des Moines (Ia.) P. L.* The city council has voted to make a special tax levy of three mills for the creation of a library building fund. The levy was passed over the mayor's veto.

*Felchville (Vt.) F. L.* The Gilbert A. Davis library building was dedicated on July 4. It is an attractive little brick building, one-storied, Greek in style, and contains a library-room, reading-room, and lobby. There are now about 1500 volumes on the shelves.

*Fort Dodge, Ia.* A new library building is assured, as the result of the gifts of Mrs. M. G. Haskell and others. In June Mrs. Haskell offered to give \$10,000 for the purpose; this was supplemented by an offer of a site valued

at \$6500, and an additional gift of \$1000 from three interested citizens—Messrs. Vincent, Olson, and Ringland. All these gifts were provisional upon the city or citizens raising \$5000 prior to July 1, to be added to the fund. The offers were accepted, and the city's contribution was duly collected.

*Fort Worth (Tex.) L. A.* The persistent efforts of the association to raise funds for the establishment of a free public library, in a suitable building, met with unexpected appreciation on July 25, when the association was notified that Andrew Carnegie would present to it \$50,000 for that purpose, the money to be devoted to a library building. This is a grateful conclusion to the hard work of the members of the association, who held a public picnic on July 10, and conducted a large and successful "gift concert" early in July for the benefit of a library fund—the enterprises realizing several thousand dollars. Mr. Carnegie's gift was an occasion of general rejoicing in Fort Worth. The mayor issued the following proclamation:

#### COME OUT AND JUBILATE.

Sound the hewgag! Blow the ram's horn! Proclaim it from the housetops. Fort Worth has secured the finest library building in the South through the generosity of the world's great philanthropist,

ANDREW CARNEGIE.

Information was received at library headquarters yesterday evening that Andrew Carnegie had donated the magnificent sum of

#### FIFTY THOUSAND DOLLARS

for the Public Free library.

The citizens of Fort Worth are urgently requested to assemble in mass meeting at the city hall at 8 o'clock this evening for the purpose of accepting this magnificent gift and to adopt suitable resolutions expressive of the thanks of the people for this generous donation.

Come out and bring your horns, drums, bells, musical instruments and any and everything that will make a noise. Let every citizen, old and young, come out and unite in a demonstration such as has never been witnessed in the city.

B. B. PADDOCK, *Mayor.*

A crowded public mass meeting was held on the evening of July 26, when speeches were made and resolutions of thanks adopted. Plans for the library building have already been discussed, and it is intended to make the cornerstone laying an elaborate affair.

*Gloversville (N. Y.) F. L.* (19th rpt.—year ending Jan. 1, '99.) Added 908; total, 16,941. Issued, home use, 66,756; lib. use 5348; visitors to reading-room 30,613. New registration 380.

The recommendations include rearrangement and enlargement of book-room, establishment of a children's room, and home circulation of photographs and works of art.

Appended to the report is a classed list of the year's accessions.

*Hagerstown, Md.* The proposed gift of B. F. Newcomer of \$50,000 for a library fund, conditional upon the raising of \$20,000 by the community, is not yet withdrawn, despite Mr. Newcomer's announcement that the proposal would be invalid if the conditional fund was not raised by June 1. Mr. Newcomer has consented to hold the offer open for a little longer.



*Hebron (Ct.) L. A.* The new library building was dedicated on June 21. It was built largely by public subscriptions and gifts, and has cost \$1000. Previous to its completion the library, which was incorporated in 1889, was kept in private houses of members of the local association. It was made free this year, and now receives a small yearly appropriation from the town and aid from the state library commission.

*Iowa, Libraries of.* The "Iowa official register" for 1899 contains full tabulated "statistics of Iowa libraries," compiled by W. H. Johnston, president of the Iowa Library Association. The results shown were previously noted in these columns (L. J., March, p. 124). The unsatisfactory method of printing the statistics, which are divided into two separate tables, renders their consultation difficult.

*Keene (N. H.) P. L.* The library occupies a fine three-story brick building, handsomely fitted up and furnished with all the modern appointments, a gift of the late Mr. Edward C. Thayer. The lower floor is occupied by the reference-room, men's and women's reading-rooms, delivery-room and book-stack; the second floor, by the art-room, public document and magazine rooms, and trustees' room; and the third floor, by a lecture-hall and the Ingersoll Museum. The library numbers about 11,000 volumes and has a circulation of 32,000. Miss Myra F. Southworth, formerly librarian of Brockton (Mass.) Public Library, has recently been appointed librarian.

*Los Angeles (Cal.) P. L.* (10th rpt. — year ending Nov. 30, '98.) Accessions and total volumes are not stated. The circulation was 530,297 (fict. 232,470; juv. 67,676; magazines 83,261). New registration 4511; total live membership 23,173. Receipts \$30,997.77; expenses \$22,700.50.

"The school reference library begun last year has increased to about 250 volumes, and has been of great use to teachers and pupils throughout the year."

"The falling off in fiction and juvenile is without doubt due almost entirely to open shelves." The new system has largely increased the general reference use.

*Malden (Mass.) P. L.* (21st rpt. — year ending Dec. 31, '99.) Added 2869; total 33,260. Issued, home use 129,385 (fict. 72.29%), of which 41,756 were from children's room; lib. use 5869. Cards in use 19,252. Receipts \$16,930.19; expenses \$14,303.67.

It is proposed to establish five delivery stations.

*Maryland, Travelling libraries.* De Courcy W. Thom, of Baltimore, has furnished the Maryland State Travelling Library with the means for sending a number of travelling libraries to Queen Anne's county, on the eastern shore. The libraries were prepared for circulation in Baltimore, and sent to a local centre in Queen Anne's, from which they will be circulated. The object of establishing the local centre is to save time and reduce freight charges.

*Mattoon (Ill.) P. L.* (Rpt. — year ending June 1, '99.) Added 569; total 3761. Issued 34,020 (fict. 54%; juv. 34%); new registration 55; total membership 2800. Receipts \$1776.65; expenses \$1325.75.

*Menasha, Wis.* Elisha D. Smith, who gave to Menasha its \$25,000 library building, died suddenly on July 7.

*Michigan City (Ind.) P. L.* (2d rpt. — year ending April 30, '99.) Added 606; total 4335. Issued, home use 38,046 (fict. 42.5%; juv. 38.8%). No. cardholders 1680.

An interesting report, showing varied activities and good work. "The library has, from the first, given free access to the shelves in the reference-room and the children's room. This year we have placed a case, holding about 275 volumes, at the side of the loan-desk, where it is easily accessible, and in it we have placed a selected collection of books from all classes in the library, including not only some of the newest and most popular but also some of the 'best' books. This is entirely open to the public, and has not only caused a great saving of time to public and librarians alike, but has been a source of gratification to many readers who enjoy selecting their own books from the shelves, but to whom, at the same time, a larger array of volumes might bring confusion and uncertainty. This open-shelf corner does not in any way interfere with the privilege of teachers, students, and all who wish of examining the entire collection in the main book-stack."

Work with the schools has been carried on in connection with a special class-room for the use of teachers and pupils. "Each grade in the school with its teacher, from grades 6 to 8, has the use of this room for one afternoon session of each week. At their grade meetings the teachers determine upon the subject which they will take up at their next visit to the library, and notify us in advance. Books on that subject sufficient in number to supply each pupil in the grade are sent up to the room, and each child is assigned a topic upon which to write a short composition from the material furnished. When a pupil has found all he can from one source, books are exchanged, and thus each child comes into contact with several books which may be new to him. Since Jan. 1, 1899, 502 books and magazines have been used in the class-room."

*Minneapolis (Minn.) P. L.* Owing to the inadequacy of the present library appropriation and income to meet present expenses of the year, the directors at their July meeting decided to make unavoidable retrenchments. The following announcement has therefore been made:

"All purchasing of books is for the present suspended.

"All purchase of periodicals for circulation is at present suspended.

"The library day at the central building and at the branches is shortened by one session, making the closing hour 6 p.m., thereby making necessary a smaller number of employees.

"The compensation of station agents is reduced one-half.

"The reduction in the salary, book and periodical accounts, resulting from these measures, it is hoped will make it possible for the board to meet its obligations during the rest of the year 1899. The changes will go into effect at once. The newspaper-room at the central building will be open as heretofore, until 10 p.m."

*New Britain (Ct.) Institute L.* (45th rpt., 1898-99.) Added 1041; total not given. Issued, home use 42,337. Receipts \$9574.30; expenses \$8705.29.

Reference is made to the new library building now in course of construction, which when completed will give opportunity for the more thorough development of the library.

*New York City, Aguilar F. L.* The Harlem branch of the library, at 174 E. 110th street, was opened in its new building on June 29. It is a handsome two-storied building, with granite front, and special provision is made for children. There are 12,000 volumes on the shelves.

*New York City, East Side House, Webster F. L.* As a means of keeping teachers interested in the library during the vacation season, the library distributed, before the close of the schools, copies of the Scribner descriptive list of books for school libraries, with a slip stating that most of the books there named were contained in the library, and adding:

"Vacation is at hand. If you desire any of these books, or any others that are in this library, we shall be most happy to have you call, or send for them, and return them when school reopens in the autumn. In selecting books for summer use it is a far better plan to visit the library and make a personal selection than to send a list of books, many of which are frequently in use. If the exact book desired is not in at the time, some other book may be selected to take its place. This cannot be done when a list is submitted. This offer includes novels as well as general literature."

*New York F. C. L.* The Chatham square branch of the library, at 22 East Broadway, was opened on the morning of July 3. It contains an attractive children's room, and already reaches a large constituency, chiefly east side Hebrews. In all about 5000 volumes are shelved in the library, over 1000 being in the children's department.

*New York City, Harlem L.* (Rpt. — year ending May 31, '99.) Added 709; total 14,488. Issued, home use 128,207 (fict. 72,021; juv. fict. 40,849). Receipts \$7498.03; expenses \$6546.95.

There has been practically a new era in the library's usefulness since it was made free to the public in 1898. Since Sept. 1, 1898, free access has been given throughout, a change which "has been much appreciated and has proved advantageous to both the library staff and the readers."

*New York, Gen. Society of Mechanics' and Tradesmen's L.* Early in July the General Society effected an interesting real estate exchange

with the authorities of Columbia College by which the latter receive the society's property at 18 E. 16th street, 711-715 7th avenue, and 168 and 170 W. 48th street in exchange for the old Berkeley School building on 44th street. The school will be remodelled and fitted, and the society will then remove its library — long known as the Apprentices' Library — to this building.

*New York City, University Settlement Society L.* (Rpt., 1898.) "The library has now on its shelves 4372 volumes. The circulation for the year was 55,712." The library was removed to its rooms in the handsome new building of the Settlement, at 184 Eldredge street, on the morning of Dec. 23, 1898, and on the same afternoon books were given out as usual. Miss Moore says: "The problems that space and air have brought are not inconsiderable. The effect of oxygen on children, heretofore used to a close, gas-lighted room, cannot but take some form of inebriety, and in a reading-room which, on a crowded day, holds from 80 to 100 children, there is ample opportunity for fertile brains to concoct mischief. That we shall have larger opportunities for usefulness has already been proven. Being opposite one of the largest public schools in the city, the pupils have discovered the value of our reference books, and every day more children come to use them.

"It has been the endeavor of the library to meet the individual needs of its members. To do this it has been necessary to understand their life, their environment, the constructive and destructive forces of the neighborhood. Our readers are chiefly Russian and Polish Hebrews, and their Oriental natures give them a strong love for the marvellous. Wild and extravagant fairy tales and impossible stories of adventure appeal to their vivid imagination. Strong emotion they can stand; tragedy they love; sorrow does not crush them. The stories of King Lear and Othello the youngest child bears with a fortitude that we can only wonder at. Therefore, in trying to guide their reading we must not have a Procrustean standard based upon our own race sensibilities and individual preferences. We must not forget that they are the children for whose parents were written such distinctively non-Anglo-Saxon books as 'Anna Karenina,' Dostoyevsky's 'Crime and punishment' and 'Taras Bulba.'"

*New York City, Washington Heights F. L.* (31st rpt. — year ending May 1, '99.) Added 2215; total 14,668. Issued, home use 62,903; ref. use 2984. Visitors to reading-room 24,180.

The circulation shows an increase of 25 per cent. over the preceding year. "The increase in the number of readers making use of the reading-room is 33½ per cent., and the increase of applications for books of reference has been nearly 20 per cent." A building fund of \$20,000 has been secured, and plans have been filed for a new building to be erected on a site on St. Nicholas avenue, above 155th street.

*Oakland (Cal.) P. L.* An effort is being made to raise a fund for the purchase of a site for a

new library building. Two subscriptions of \$500 each have already been offered to the trustees.

*Ohio State L.* At the recent annual meeting of the Ohio State Teachers' Association, held June 27-29, at Put-in-Bay, the following resolution was passed:

"Resolved, That we approve the liberal policy that has opened the Ohio State Library on equal terms to all citizens of the state; that we earnestly commend the devotion of state librarian C. B. Galbreath to his work, and that we heartily endorse the action of the last General Assembly in appropriating \$4000 for the maintenance of a system of travelling libraries."

*Ohio Wesleyan University, Delaware.* The dedication of the Charles Elihu Slocum Library on June 20, 1898, has been commemorated in an attractive pamphlet giving the "Inception, dedicatory addresses and description" of the library "to which is added a sketch of the history of the university" illustrated with many excellent views and plans of the handsome building (58 p. 1. O.).

*Omaha (Neb.) P. L.* The librarian's report for the year ending May 31 gives the following facts: Added 2965; total 49,725. Issued, home use 183,698 (fict. 50.5 %; juv. fict. 20.9 %), of which over one-third were for children's use. Visitors to ref. dept. 23,461; to reading-room 49,243. Total cards used 12,900.

As a result of the Trans-Mississippi Exposition a museum has been established, containing contributions received from exhibitors, supplemented by loans from the government. There has been a slight decrease in circulation, attributed to the effects of the war and of the general interest in the exposition. The report includes an historical sketch of the library.

*Passaic (N. J.) P. L.* The city council has decided to reduce the library appropriation to \$2800 instead of the \$4000 previously awarded. The latter sum was in excess of the rate of  $\frac{1}{4}$  of a mill authorized by the library law, and the city attorney holds that the council has no right to exceed that rate. If the reduction is made it will make it necessary for the Dundee branch of the library to be closed.

*Paterson (N. J.) F. P. L.* (14th rpt.—year ending Jan. 31, '99.) Added 3035; total 29,883. Issued, home use 122,610 (fict. 74.5 %); lib. use 1434. New registration 3395; total cards in force 8939. Receipts \$24,941.93; expense \$14,316.63.

There were 1111 v. issued through the schools, to which five special libraries of 50 volumes each were sent. An open bookcase holding about 300 v. has been placed outside the rail, by the delivery-desk, where new books are arranged for examination and selection. "The experiment has been popular and successful."

*Pennsylvania State L., Harrisburg.* The recataloging and reclassification of the library has been undertaken, and alteration of the interior arrangements is also under way.

*Pittsburgh, Carnegie L.* (3d rpt.—year ending Jan. 31, '99.) Added 28,041 v., 1377 pm.;

total 68,485 v., 5321 pm. Issued, home use 175,931 (fict. 70.14 %), of which 46,985 were from the Lawrenceville branch; ref. use 95,078. Visitors to ref. dept. 17,807; reading-room use 192,515. New registration 5099; total registration 17,934.

The opening of the Lawrenceville branch was the chief event of the year, and the building is described in detail, with plans and illustrations.

A special feature of the report is the report of Miss Olcott, chief of the children's department, which is given in full, and which is of much interest and suggestiveness. It shows large activities, well directed, and broad planning for future work. The home library system developed in connection with the children's department is especially interesting.

The report is well printed, and illustrated with numerous views of the library, home library groups, etc.

*Providence (R. I.) P. L.* (21st rpt.—year ending Dec. 31, '98.) Added 3444; total 86,235. Issued, home use 120,932 (fict. 60.60+ %); lib. use 33,498. New registration 5027; cards in use 14,309. Receipts \$147,709.66; expenses \$146,866.06.

Mr. Foster reviews the history of the new library building, and notes the generous gifts of Mr. John Nicholas Brown toward it. It is hoped that it may be occupied within the year. The various special lists, bulletins, and subjects treated in the library bulletin are briefly noted. An innovation of the year has been the establishment of a home library system, the first library having been sent out on May 14, 1898. This is a development of the work of circulating framed photographs—a practice which has proved its value. Additional funds for book purchase are needed, and the projected "standard library," in particular, is commended to the generosity of interested friends.

*Racine (Wis.) P. L.* The librarian's report for the year ending May 31, '99, gives the following facts: Added 1567; total 6714. Issued 41,286 (fict. 20.797; juv. 13,383). New registration 847; total registration 3224.

*Richmond Hill (L. I.) L.* This library, recently organized by the Ladies' Twentieth Century Club, has made its report to the regents for the 11 weeks of the official year closing June 30. Within less than three months (it was opened April 8) it has circulated 4132 volumes, and has proved its usefulness in the town. Free access is given to all books, and special relations have been established with the children.

*Riverside (Cal.) P. L.* (Rpt.—year ending June 30, '99.) Added 938; total 10,472. Issued, home use 62,422 (fict. 82 $\frac{1}{4}$  %), a gain of 7049 over last year. New registration 3979; total registration 3,305. Receipts \$3803.79; expenses \$2848.20.

The report marks the library's tenth anniversary. In entering upon a new decade the librarian recommends several changes—1, the rearrangement of the fiction department by

authors, the 4901 volumes in this department being now simply numbered from one up; 2, the adoption of free access to all departments, including fiction, which is now reserved from the public; 3, the creation of a "children's corner," since a children's room is impracticable; 4, removal of age limit; 5, the printing of library rule and regulations. It is to be hoped that these recommendations will be promptly carried into effect.

*St. Louis (Mo.) P. L.* The librarian's annual report was submitted to the board on June 20. It showed accessions of 7896, a circulation of 698,339, and new registration of 12,357. The total number of cards in use is 46,954. The total expenses for the year were \$55,811.21.

"Until the library is provided with a suitable building and its maintenance fund is freed from the burden of payments on the building site, its growth must be checked and its usefulness limited."

*Somerville (Mass.) P. L.* (26th rpt.—year ending Dec. 31, '98.) Added 3405; total 40,822. Issued, home use 222,817, of which 43,160 were delivered through the three agencies and the grammar schools. Receipts \$10,290.24; expenditures, \$10,282.84.

The death of Mr. John S. Hayes and the appointment of Sam Walter Foss as librarian in May, 1898, were the most important events of the library year. Mr. Foss gives a detailed review of the seven months following his appointment, outlining new plans and touching upon the influences that the modern library should exert. The chief changes made comprise the establishment of a children's room, and the equipment of an enlarged reading room and of a small room for quiet study. A new card catalog has been begun. Sunday opening of the two reading rooms was begun in November, and the usefulness of the experiment seems to have been so fully proved that the librarian makes a strong plea for evening opening, which will, however, require an addition to the present library force. Request is made for a special appropriation for books for school work, to continue and extend the present practice of sending selected collections of 25 books, to be kept in the school room as a school library. It is hoped that the nucleus of a music collection may be made, the cost of a good basic collection being estimated at about \$200. More room is urgently needed, and to obtain this a special appropriation is asked.

As a means of increasing the library's scope and influence, Mr. Foss suggests that "every family in Somerville should be offered a library card. If the undertaking is of too great a magnitude to be carried into immediate effect, I would like to see it tried as an experiment in some single precinct of the city. Let a door to door canvass be made in some such precinct, and our regular application blanks be left with all eligible persons who desire them. A trial of this method could be made in a comparatively small section, which would give us a data to enable us to determine concerning the prac-

ticability for a larger application." He adds: "Every effort has been made during the past year to make the library an uplifting and an inspirational agency. We have tried to get into the hearts of the young through the pathway of human sympathy. We have tried to create an atmosphere of welcome. The young people and all others whom we could help have been encouraged in every way to seek personal interviews with the librarian and all other members of the staff; and suggestions along the line of each one's aptitude have been offered to the extent of our limitations."

*Southport, Ct. Pequot L.* (5th rpt.) Added 1411; total 16,181. Issued, home use 15,322 (fict. 67%, including juv. fict.; juv. 16%). New cards issued 196; total registration 1461. Reading room attendance 18,253.

During the year a rare collection of Americana was given to the library.

*Springfield (O.) Warder P. L.* (17th rpt.—year ending May 1, '99.) Added 756; total 16,832. Issued, home use 61,101 (fict. 56.64%; juv. fict. 17.99%). Number cardholders 4756. Receipts, \$7369.89; expenses \$5602.47.

"The year has been marked by the adoption of a new [D. C.] classification, new [Browne] charging system, and the publication of a new catalog, the third in the history of the library."

The special needs are a work room and a children's room.

*Toledo (O.) P. L.* The librarian's report for 1898-99, gives the following facts: Added 3921; total 44,005. Issued, home use 144,620 (fict. 47%; juv. 26.27%); ref. use, 41,680; new registration 3454. The president of the board refers to three "noteworthy advances which have been made during the past year"—1, the establishment of a children's department; 2, adoption of a civil service system for the appointment of assistants; 3, compilation of a code of library rules and regulations. He suggests as work for the new year, the establishment of branches or delivery stations, the consideration of the open-shelf system, and enlargement of the reference room.

At the June, 1899, meeting of the board of trustees it was decided to make alterations in the library arrangement that will permit free access to the shelves. It was also suggested that branch libraries be established in the fall.

*Utica (N. Y.) P. L.* The librarian's report for the year ending June 3 gives the following facts: Added 2721; total 27,005. Issued, home use 149,260 (fict. .807%), of which about 62,000 were circulated among the children; readers in ref. dept. 28,171. Sunday use (Nov. to April) 1481. New registration 2303; total registration 15,071.

The use of the library by children has been very large, especially when it is considered that the library contains only 3000 children's books, which are arranged in one alcove about 12 by 14, and each of which must, according to the total statistics, have circulated over 20 times. The card catalog has been completed to date.

*Van Wert, O.* The corner-stone of the Brumback Memorial County Library was laid on July 18, in the park in which it is to stand. The building, which is to cost \$40,000, is the gift to the county of Van Wert of the late J. S. Brumback, president of the Van Wert National Bank. The corner-stone was laid with Masonic ceremonies, and included an address by Hon. O. S. Brumback, of Toledo, trustee of the Toledo Public Library.

*Waltham (Mass.) P. L.* (Rpt. — year ending Jan. 31, '99.) Added 811; total 25,991. Issued 63,379 (fict. 55 %). New registration 521.

Four art exhibitions were made possible through the facilities of the Library Art Club.

*Washburn (Wis.) P. L.* The library has just been classified and cataloged by Miss Janet Green, of Ashland. It contains about 1500 volumes, of which 400 are new.

*Washington (D. C.) P. L.* A plan for the new library building to be given to Washington by Andrew Carnegie was selected on July 18 from the 200 drawings submitted by the 26 competing architects. The design chosen was that of Ackerman & Ross, of New York City, a firm which was not represented among the 10 architects invited to compete. It was announced that the design would require serious alterations to conform to the views of the library committee. The total cost of the building is to be \$250,000, and Bernard R. Green, of the Congressional Library, has been appointed to take charge of its construction.

*Watertown (Ct.) L. A.* The 34th annual report of the library for the year ending April 24, '99, gives the following facts: Added 264; total 8274. Issued 9795.

*Wilmington (Del.) Institute F. L.* In the 42d report of the library for the year ending March 1, former librarian Sewell gives the following figures: Added 3672; total 33,789. Issued, home use 162,978 (fict. 54 %; juv. 31.5 %). New registration 1769; total cards in use 9235.

A beginning was made in supplying books to the public schools for reference or circulation through the class-room.

*Winthrop, Mass. Frost P. L.* June 27 was "library day" in Winthrop, and almost the entire town was represented at the dedication ceremonies of the handsome Frost library building. After music by the Verdi quartet an historical sketch of the library was read by David Floyd; Mrs. S. E. Cowell recited an original poem; and the address of the day was delivered by Hon. William Everett, of Quincy, Mass. It was a brilliant and inspiring plea for books and reading as factors in all higher life, ethical and mental, and as the great uplifting force of a community. In the evening an informal reception was held in the building, where an interesting loan collection of pictures and antiques was displayed.

The building is an imposing structure, classic in design, built of gray brick with granite base and limestone trimmings. It has a frontage of

70 feet, with a depth of 30 feet. The stack-room extends back from the main building 40 feet, with a width of 27½ feet. Broad steps lead to the outer vestibule, or porch, which has a mosaic floor with sienna marble walls resting upon verte maurine marble base. The inner vestibule also contains marble walls and mosaic floor, and has a rich mosaic ceiling. Opening from the entrance is the general delivery-room, separated from the stack-room by the delivery-desk. The stack-room is equipped with Fenton metallic stacks, and it can be extended to twice its present capacity, should occasion arise. At the right of the delivery-room, entering the building, is the general reading-room, and on the left the children's room. These rooms and the delivery-room are separated by oak columns. From the children's room one steps into the reference-room. All the reading-rooms are provided with solid oak tables and comfortable chairs. Bookcases are also built into the walls in these rooms. Two flights of stairs, one on each side of the main entrance, lead to the second story, and another to the basement. The three upstairs rooms occupy the full length of the building, and are lighted by three skylights in addition to several windows. The south room is used as a picture gallery; the east room is used for the collection of local historical objects; while the centre room can be used for whatever purpose may develop. The basement may be entered by a flight of granite steps, with a bicycle run on each side. It contains a bicycle-room, a lavatory, a fire-proof vault, and two large rooms in which books will be stored.

The whole building is finished in quartered oak, stained, varnished, and hand-rubbed. The floors are of hard pine. The heavy plate-glass windows swing in, and are curtained and screened. A drinking fountain of marble, connected with an iced coil of pipe in the basement, is an attractive feature in the delivery-room. The building is piped for gas and electric lighting.

*Worcester (Mass.) F. P. L.* In delivering his address at the recent decennial celebration of Clark University, Professor G. Stanley Hall, president of the university, said: "The large and new demands upon the Public Library caused by the presence of an university for research which involved a material addition to the work, which is likely to increase in proportion to our growth, should be distinctly recognized. The special privileges needed by investigators have often been a strain upon the capacity of both its officers, the methods of administration and service, and the resources of its alcoves. In all these respects the Public Library has admirably met the test, and I desire here to express, not only for myself personally but for the other members of the university, our gratitude to the city, the trustees, and particularly to the accomplished head of the library itself, whose co-operation has so often gone far beyond the most liberal construction of his duties, for having made himself, with his able corps of assistants, so important a factor in our work."

## FOREIGN.

*Florence, Bibl. Nazionale.* The recently issued "Report on the proceedings between the kingdom and the municipality (in regard to the National Library of Florence) from 1885 to December, 1898," gives interesting record of the history of the library during that period. The report begins with the Parliamentary investigation of 1882, which found that it was not possible to have regular and prompt service, nor to dispose properly of the constantly growing collection in the building then and still in use. In 1885 the municipality was asked to cede to the government for a new building an area of about 2600 m. on the site of the demolished ghetto. From 1886 to 1899 the collection has grown from 15,650 mss., 364,195 v., 243,203 pamphlets, and 6400 musical compositions, to 18,322 mss., 464,759 v., 544,273 pamphlets and 23,718 musical compositions. It is stated that the 1,315,934 catalog cards, representing this growth, cannot be used by the public for want of suitable space; and that there are 2400 periodicals of various kinds for which room should be provided.

After an account of some of the special collections, the report takes up the condition of the present building, which, it says, gives no guaranty of any kind against fire, and is situated near some old houses and a theatre, edifices dangerous not only for the library but for the archives and the Uffizi gallery. On account of this, the municipality, in giving the land asked for, insisted upon the widening of Via Castellani by the government, in order to make safer the two buildings last named. It was agreed that the government should erect the new library building within four years; but there were many delays and much hesitation. Twice, in order to hasten matters, the city offered a larger amount of ground than before. Changes in the plan and additions to the municipality's generosity were called for by the government, followed only by more delays, caused partly by changes of ministry in the department of public instruction.

In 1898 the ministry finally declared the government unable, for financial reasons, to erect the buildings desired, although the city had offered the land and had secured a promise of the necessary funds, repayable in 10 years, at a rate of not more than 120,000 lire (\$24,000) per year. Not only the library but the Uffizi gallery and the archives were thus abandoned to their fate by the government. The mayor and council were so grieved and offended by this action of the government, which they took to be a direct affront to Florence, that they gave in their resignations, and were only induced to withdraw them by a promise from the ministry that the subject would be again taken up the following year.

Thus the matter stands, after 14 years of vain effort on the part of the Florentines to save the three institutions which are among their chief titles to fame, not only of Florence but of all Italy. The report is published by order of the municipality, for distribution among senators and deputies, in the hope that a clear statement of the facts may induce them to promote the much-needed legislation.

*Germany, Public libraries in.* The Bureau of Statistics of the city of Dortmund in the northwestern part of Prussia has issued a 12-page folio report prepared by Dr. Ernst Schultze, giving the results of a canvass of 40 German cities to ascertain their equipment in the matter of public libraries, reading-rooms, etc. The information is tabulated alphabetically by cities. The details are of interest. From them the writer concludes that thus far the free libraries of Germany do not provide sufficiently for readers of papers and periodicals nor for students of the technical arts, the general reader and novel reader being almost exclusively catered for. He naturally dwells almost with awe upon the provision made for public libraries in England and America. The writer promises an exact calculation of the money expended in England for libraries, to be published in the *Comenius Blätter für Völkerversicherung*, within the year. He specially tries to stir up the ambition of some German city to take the lead in bringing Germany to understand her duty in the matter of public libraries.

*Italy, Societa Bibliographica Italiana.* The third general meeting of the society will be held at Genoa, Nov. 1, 1899.

*Manila, Philippine Is.* A free library and reading-room has been opened in Manila, chiefly for the use of the American soldiers and sailors. Many books and periodicals have been given and further contributions will be welcomed. It is asked that books be addressed to Col. J. D. Wiley, for the Free Library of Manila, Manila, P. I.

*San Juan, Porto Rico.* A library for sailors and men of the U. S. Navy Department, known as the Dorman Library, has been established at the naval station at San Juan. It contains 2326 volumes, and is the gift to the department of O. P. Dorman, of New York.

*Westmount (Can.) P. L.* The beautiful new library building was formally opened on the evening of June 20 in the presence of a large audience. The exercises were held in the building itself, which was lighted from cellar to tower and was beautifully decorated with flowers and potted plants. The date of June 20 was chosen for the occasion on account of its being the anniversary of the coronation of Queen Victoria, the library being a memorial of the Queen's Jubilee of 1897. The address of the evening was made by W. I. Fletcher, of Amherst College, who spoke earnestly and happily of "Libraries and their moral usefulness." Other speakers were C. H. Gould, of McGill University Library, and F. W. Evans, chairman of the library committee.

The building, which was completed last October, is a handsome edifice of red pressed brick, trimmed with yellow sandstone, in the Spanish-Gothic style, with a round tower. The entrance is mosaic. The ground floor consists of a large reading-room divided by arches supported by heavy ornate pillars of yellow marble. Near the chimney are two grates, one on each side. There is also a reception-room, a large stack-room, and the librarian's room.

The arrangements are based largely upon the arrangements of the Redpath Library of McGill University, and the library committee has been greatly indebted to Mr. Gould, librarian of that university, for the help and suggestions given by him during the planning and execution of the work. A notable feature in connection with the new Westmount library is that so far its construction has not cost the corporation one cent. It has been built from a sum of money amounting to about \$14,000, which in 1895 was obtained by the town as a forfeit from the Coates Gas Co. for not fulfilling its contract. There are already 3000 volumes on the shelves of the library; these were selected by Mr. Gould.

### Gifts and Bequests.

*East Liverpool, O.* On July 15 Andrew Carnegie expressed his willingness to give \$50,000 toward a public library building in East Liverpool, where he spent at one time two years of his boyhood. The usual stipulations that the city provide the site and maintain the library were appended in the offer, and have been accepted.

*Haverhill (Mass.) P. L.* By the will of the late Nathaniel Noyes, of Haverhill, the library receives a bequest of \$10,000.

*Kennebunk (Me.) P. L.* By the will of the late Andrew Walker, of Kennebunk, who died July 18, the library receives a bequest of \$10,000.

*Massachusetts Historical Society.* At the June meeting of the society Dr. S. A. Green gave an account of the valuable collection of books and manuscripts bequeathed to the society by the late Justin Winsor, and which had been much enlarged by a supplementary gift from Mrs. Winsor. This collection numbers nearly 300 volumes; and among them are Dr. Winsor's interleaved and annotated copies of the "Memorial history of Boston," the "Narrative and critical history of America," and of other books written by him, with numerous historical works connected with his studies, and many substantially bound volumes of correspondence on historical subjects.

*Milwaukee (Wis.) P. L.* The library has received an anonymous gift of \$200. to be devoted to the purchase of books for the blind.

*Montpelier, Vt. Kellogg-Hubbard L.* By the will of the late John E. Hubbard, founder of the Kellogg-Hubbard Library, that library receives the sum of \$125,000.

*Orange (N. J.) F. L.* Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Stickler, of Orange, have expressed their intention of erecting a handsome library building as a memorial to their son, Dr. Joseph W. Stickler, provided a site is furnished by the trustees. A suitable location at Main Street and Essex avenue has practically been decided upon, and details of purchase, plans, etc., will be pushed forward rapidly.

*Passaic (N. J.) P. L.* The library has received from an anonymous friend a contribution of \$2000, to be devoted to the general purposes of the library.

*Steubenville, O.* Andrew Carnegie offered on July 17 to give \$50,000 toward a public library for Steubenville, provided the citizens will furnish a site and maintain the library. The offer has been accepted.

*Williamsport, Pa.* James V. Brown, of Williamsport, has announced his intention of presenting to the town a free public library, which he will erect, equip, and endow. Mr. Brown has given a valuable centrally located site for the proposed building, which he states will cost \$30,000. A handsome residence now standing on the site will be used as part of the library building. The library is to be known as the J. V. Brown Library.

### Librarians.\*

*BAKER, George H.* The address of Mr. G. H. Baker will be after July 1 at his house, 294 Manhattan Avenue, New York City, instead of Columbia University Library.

*DIGGES, Eugene,* state librarian of Texas, died at his home in Austin, Tex. on June 29. Mr. Digges was born in Charles County, Md., in 1839, and was educated at Georgetown University, later taking up the practice of law in Charles County. He went to Texas about 14 years ago, and at the time of his death was serving his second term as state librarian.

*DUDLEY, Charles R.,* formerly librarian of the City Library of Denver, Col., has been elected librarian of the newly organized Public Library, which is a consolidation of the City Library and the former Public Library.

*FORSYTHE, Walter G.,* who finished a few months ago his work at Lexington, Ky., reorganizing and recataloging the Lexington Public Library, has accepted a position at the Arnold Arboretum, Jamaica Plain, where he is making a bibliography of forestry, under the direction of Professor Charles Sprague Sargent.

*GARNETT, Dr. Richard.* The portrait of Dr. Garnett which has been painted by Mr. John Collier was presented to the late keeper of printed books at the British Museum on behalf of the subscribers by Mr. Leslie Stephen, the chairman of the committee, on June 23, at the house of the Society of Arts. The committee had sufficient funds at their disposal to supplement the portrait by a gift of a small library of books of reference chosen by Dr. Garnett. The books thus selected were: Smith's "Dictionary of the Bible," "Christian biography," "Classical biography and mythology," "Greek and Roman antiquities," "Greek and Roman geography"; Clinton's "Fasti Hellen-

\* Record of further library appointments and changes is given in the department "Library schools and training classes," p. 489.

ice," and "Fasti Romani"; Head's "Historia Numorum"; Stevenson and Madden's "Dictionary of Roman coins"; Murfay's "History of Greek sculpture"; Plato, translated by Jowett; Pausanias, translated by Frazer; Gibbon, edited by Bury; Grove's "Dictionary of music and musicians"; Liddell and Scott's "Greek lexicon"; Chisholm's "The Times Gazetteer of the world." The volumes were uniformly bound by Zachnsdorf.

GUPPY, Henry, formerly librarian of Sion College, London, has been appointed joint-librarian of the John Rylands Library of Manchester, Eng. Mr. Guppy is editor of the *Library Association Record*, the new organ of the L. A. U. K.

HUBNER, Major Charles W., assistant librarian of the Young Men's Library of Atlanta, has been elected assistant librarian of the Carnegie Library of Atlanta.

LINCOLN, Charles Henry, of the University of Pennsylvania, has been appointed assistant in the manuscript department of the Library of Congress.

MOULTON, John Graham, librarian of the Brockton (Mass.) Public Library, has been elected librarian of the Haverhill (Mass.) Public Library, where he succeeds Edward Capen, the former librarian, who will act as assistant librarian. Mr. Moulton has been connected with the Brockton Library for about a year and a half, having previously been in charge of the Quincy (Ill.) Public Library, where he went after graduation from the New York State Library School. He will assume his new duties in Haverhill on October 1.

PARSONS, John F., formerly librarian of the Denver (Col.) Public Library, has been elected assistant librarian of the newly organized Public Library, which consolidates the City Library and the former Public Library. Mr. Parsons in December, 1897, succeeded John C. Dana as librarian of the Public Library.

PETERSON, Henry F., librarian of the Oakland (Cal.) Free Public Library, resigned his position on June 6, and was succeeded by Charles S. Green, assistant editor of the *Oakland Monthly*. Mr. Peterson had been connected with the Oakland Library for 25 years.

PHAIR, Philip W., formerly assistant librarian and instructor, Trinity College, Hartford, Ct., has been appointed assistant in the reading room of the Library of Congress.

PLUMMER, Miss Helen L., class of '97 of Pratt Institute Library School, cataloger at the Library of the University of Pennsylvania, is slowly recovering from typhoid fever.

RANKIN, Miss Julia Toombs, of the Pratt Institute Library School, second-year course, 1899, has been elected head cataloger of the Carnegie Library of Atlanta.

SCHNEIDER, Joseph, formerly assistant librarian of Georgetown College, has been appointed assistant in the reading-room of the Library of Congress.

SOUTHWORTH, Miss Myra F., has been appointed librarian of the Keene (N. H.) Public Library. Miss Southworth was for 20 years librarian of the Brockton (Mass.) Public Library, and has been a member of the A. L. A. since 1878.

STEFANSSON, Steingrmar, formerly in the Newberry Library, Chicago, was in June appointed assistant cataloger at the Library of Congress.

STOCKWELL, George W. C., has resigned his position in the New Hampshire State Library to become librarian of the Westfield (Mass.) Athenæum, succeeding Miss Mary H. Bisbee, resigned.

WILEY, Edwin, for six years librarian of the University of Tennessee, has been appointed assistant librarian and instructor in English at Vanderbilt University.

WILLIAMS, Norman, trustee of the Chicago Public Library, died at his summer home at Hampton Beach, N. H., on June 19. Mr. Williams was born at Woodstock, Vt., Feb. 1, 1835; he graduated from the University of Vermont at Burlington, and came to Illinois nearly 40 years ago, when he entered upon the practice of law. He early realized wealth in his profession, and was long prominently connected with social and commercial affairs in Chicago, and with many public enterprises. He was active in advancing the interests of the Chicago Public Library, and was a life member of the American Library Association, having also served for eight years as a trustee of the A. L. A. endowment fund.

### Cataloging and Classification.

THE AMERICAN PUBLISHING HOUSE FOR THE BLIND, Louisville, Ky., has issued a catalog of publications for the blind that should be useful in libraries having or contemplating departments for the blind. The catalog, though a large folio of 60 pages, is very light; it is printed in line letters and in point type, and gives, in addition to the publications of the American Publishing House, lists of the publications of the various institutions and schools for the blind.

THE BOSTON P. L. *Bulletin* for July contains a six-column "List of books and magazine articles on the Dreyfus affair."

CAMBRIDGE (Mass.) P. L. Catalog of English fiction. Cambridge, Mass., 1899. 416 p. D.

An author catalog, followed by a title list; attractive and easily handled. Partially annotated, to indicate sequels and historical novels.

THE CARNEGIE L. (*Pittsburgh*) bulletin for July contains the second instalment of the reading list on "Contemporary biography."

CINCINNATI (O.) P. L. Quarterly bulletin, no. 139. January-February-March, 1899. p. 1-24. O.



MR. C. A. CUTTER is preparing a three-figure alphabetical order table, made by expanding his two-figure table. There has long been a demand for such a table from those libraries that have been numbered by the original two-figure table. They cannot use the Cutter-Sanborn three-figure table when their expansion forces them to use longer numbers, because Miss Sanborn did not use the two-figure table as a basis, but made an entirely new table. The new tables will be printed on manila paper, which will make them much pleasanter to use than the heavy boards on which the Cutter-Sanborn tables were mounted. They will not last as long, but they can be sold at a less price.

INTERNATIONAL CATALOGUE OF SCIENTIFIC LITERATURE. Adler, Cyrus. The international catalogue of scientific literature: second conference. (*In Science*, June 2, p. 761-771; June 9, p. 799-808; also separate, 44 p. O.)

A full and very interesting report of the Second International Catalogue Conference of 1898, supplementing Dr. Adler's record of the first conference in *Science* for August, 1896. The plans outlined by the first conference are briefly restated, and the proceedings of the second conference are carefully reviewed, with a summary of the discussion of individual points. Dr. Adler also includes a report of the efforts made in the United States to obtain government aid for the American share in the work. The article is of value as a thorough summary of what has so far been done toward this important undertaking.

— Carus, J. Victor. On the international catalogue of scientific literature of the Royal Society. (*In Science*, June 16, p. 825-835.)

A translation from the *Zoologische Anzeiger*, and a most searching criticism of the society's plan of a catalog. "The English boast of being an eminently practical people. In this case they have not shown it to be true. There is scarcely anything less practical than the 'Schedules of classification' and the numerical indices employed in them. Equally unpractical is the method of citation of sources."

— The international catalogue of scientific literature. (*In Science*, June 23, p. 864-872.)

Three criticisms by experts of the proposed catalog. Prof. J. S. Ames, of the Johns Hopkins University, criticises the classification of Physics; Prof. H. Carrington Bolton and William P. Cutter, jointly, Chemistry; and Prof. Cleveland Abbe, Meteorology. So far as chemistry is concerned the plan is pronounced "an almost total failure."

— The international catalogue of scientific literature. (*In Science*, June 30, p. 907-909.)

Prof. N. S. Shaler, of Harvard University, criticises the work of the international catalog committee in the departments of Geology and Geography; Jacques Loeb, of the University of Chicago, in Physiology. After all these criticisms the committee will be in a condition

to exclaim, "What's the good of anything? Nothing."

JAMES BLACKSTONE MEMORIAL L., *Bransford, Ct.*, Bulletin no. 1: Additions, May, 1897-April, 1899. 24 p. O.

A well printed classed bulletin, the classification being a letter combination apparently peculiar to this library.

The MANCHESTER (*Eng.*) P. F. Ls. *Quarterly Record*, vol. 3, no. 1, contains a seven-page annotated list of books and magazine articles dealing with Oliver Cromwell and his times, compiled by J. Hibbert Swan.

MORRIS MATHEWS, chief librarian of the Bristol (*Eng.*) Public Libraries, has prepared an elaborate "Illustrated catalogue of the early printed books and manuscripts in the City Reference Library," which is published by W. Crofton Hemmons, of Bristol, at five shillings, net. The catalog contains 15 fine reproductions from ancient manuscripts, with other illustrations and facsimiles.

MAZZATINTI, G. Inventari dei manoscritti delle biblioteche d'Italia. v. 3-8. Forli, tip. L. Bordandini, ed., 1893-98. 6 v. 4°.

Recorded with analysis of contents, in the *Bollettino* of the Biblioteca Nazionale of Florence, 323:153. The Biblioteca Nazionale is so far represented by about 1040 manuscripts, literary and historical.

MEDFORD (*Mass.*) P. L. Bulletin, 1898-1899. 24 p. O.

A classed list of accessions from February, 1898, to May, 1899.

NELSON, W. Check-list of the issues of the press of New Jersey, 1723, 1728, 1754-1800, Paterson, N. J., Call Printing and Publishing Co., 1899. 42 p. 8°. [100 copies.]

The material here included will probably form part of the forthcoming volume of "Documents relating to the colonial history of New Jersey," to be published by the New Jersey Historical Society.

The N. Y. P. L. *Bulletin* for June devotes seven pages to a catalog of the "Cervantes literature in the New York Public Library," almost wholly devoted to the collection presented the library in 1893 by Rev. Wendell Prime.

SALEM (*Mass.*) P. L. Bulletin. v. 4, May, 1897, to April, 1899. Salem, Mass., 1899. 4 + 162 p. O.

The SALEM (*Mass.*) P. L. *Bulletin* for June contains special reading lists on Venice and Peace.

The SAN FRANCISCO (*Cal.*) MECHANICS' INSTITUTE *Bulletin* for July contains a list of "Books on music" (4 p.).

The U. S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE LIBRARY has in contemplation the issue of a

printed card catalog and index to the publications of the department. The cards are intended for insertion in the card catalogs of libraries that are on the regular distribution list of the department; they will include author and subject cards, will be issued in a limited edition, and will be sent only to libraries which give assurance that they will be used, and that the publications of the department will be preserved and made accessible. The present library list of the Department of Agriculture does not include the 500 depository libraries receiving government documents, and Mr. W. P. Cutter, librarian of the department, asks that libraries desirous of receiving this card catalog should notify him of their desire. Mr. Cutter states that the card issue has not yet been fully decided on, "and that considerations of expense will enter largely into the question of its feasibility"; he asks for the suggestions or opinions of the value of such a publication from any librarian interested. It is, of course, intended to make free distribution of the cards, should the plan be carried out.

#### UNIVERSITY OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK.

State library bulletin, history no. 3, June, 1899: Annotated list of the principal manuscripts in the New York State Library. p. 209-238. O. 5c.

Prepared by the late archivist, G. R. Howell; enlarged and partial bibliography added by Charles A. Flagg, sub-librarian (history). Arranged chronologically in order of accession; the bibliography "of matter relating to the manuscripts" covers p. 228-232.

"WHO'S WHO IN AMERICA," recently issued by the A. N. Marquis Co., of Chicago (872 p. O. \$2.75), is of value to catalogers as a guide to full names and biographical data for many living American writers and public men. It is modelled upon the English volume of the same name, and gives brief biographical sketches—based, so far as possible, upon information furnished by the subject—of 8602 living American men and women, considered prominent in various fields of activity. It should prove also a valuable addition to the reference shelves of almost every library.

#### CHANGED TITLES.

ATTENTION is called to another case of the simultaneous issue of one book under different titles, similar to the instance reported in the January L. J. (p. 41). This time it is an encyclopædia in six volumes, edited by Charles S. Morris and others. Among the associate editors mentioned on the title-page are found Newcomb, Brinton, J. Mark Baldwin, etc. One set is published at Philadelphia by the Syndicate Co., under the title "The imperial reference library," etc., the other at St. Louis, by L. F. Smith & Co., under the title "The international library of reference, etc." It is unquestionably a parallel case to the one previously cited. Both works are copyrighted by F. E. Wright, and are exact duplicates except in title.

#### FULL NAMES.

*The following are supplied by Harvard College Library:*

Brain, Belle Marvel (The transformation of Hawaii);

Goode, W: Athelstane Meredith (With Sampson through the war);

Hammersley, James Hooker (The seven voices);

Larned, C: W: (History of the battle monument at West Point);

McCrellis, James Bradford (Military reservations, national military parks, and national cemeteries);

Mayo, C: Edwin, *comp. and ed.* (Mortuary record from the gravestones in the old burial ground in Brewster, Mass.);

Morgan, B: Stephen, and Cork, Jacob Frank (History of education in West Virginia);

Morgan, J: Livingston Rutgers (The elements of physical chemistry);

North, E: P., and Cooley, Lyman Edgar (Report of consulting and advisory engineers to the canal investigating commission of New York);

Perry, Nelson Williams (Electric railway motors);

Russell, H: Benajah (International monetary conferences);

Scott, W: Earle Dodge (Bird studies);

Tadd, James Liberty (New methods in education);

Wiener, Alfred Eugene (Practical calculation of dynamo-electric machines).

*The following are supplied by the Catalogue Department, Library of Congress:*

Judson, Amos M. (is the compiler of Grammar of American surnames);

White, Greenough (is the author of "An epic of the soul").

#### Bibliography.

ASIATIC RUSSIA. Krausse, Alexis. Russia in Asia: a record and a study, 1558-1899. N. Y., Holt, 1899. 12 + 411 p. maps, O. \$4. Contains a bibliography, p. 389-393.

ASTRONOMY. Todd, David P. Stars and telescopes: a handbook of popular astronomy. Boston, Little, Brown & Co., 1899. 16 + 419 p. il. D. \$2.

Each chapter is followed by a good bibliography. For example, the bibliography following the chapter on "Telescopes and houses for them" is classified and comprises 11 pages.

THE AUSTRO-HUNGARIAN BOOK-TRADE ASSOCIATION (Verein der österr.-ungar. Buchhändler) has undertaken the publication of the "Österreichische bibliographie," edited by Carl Junker. This is issued as a weekly supplement to the association's organ, the *Oesterreichisch-Ungarische-Buchhändler-Correspondenz*; its scope and character are noted in the *Centralblatt für Bibliothekswesen*, June-July, p. 321. The bibliography at present gives clue only to Ger-

man publications; but if the necessary support can be secured it will be extended to cover the Czech and Slavonian, the Ruthenian, Hungarian, Roumanian, and other literatures of Austro-Hungary. It is classed according to the character of the publications, *i. e.*, Books, Periodicals, Maps, etc., and entries are arranged under publishers' names—a most unsatisfactory method, in the absence of any index. The D. C. class numbers are indicated for each entry.

**BINDINGS.** Bibliography of articles containing illustrations of bookbindings, to be found in books and periodicals in the Pratt Institute Free Library. (*In Pratt Institute Monthly*, June, 1899, p. 207-216.)

A classed list, arranged first by countries, then alphabetically by binder or style of bindings; form of illustrations, whether colored or not, is noted; confined to books "which can be found in many libraries of moderate size and means." The compiler is Miss Carrie C. Dennis, of the library class of '99, second-year course.

**CHILDSTUDY.** A 34-page bibliography of child study is appended by Arthur McDonald to his "Experimental study of children," included in the annual report of the U. S. Commissioner of Education for 1897-98. The monograph is also to be issued as a separate. The bibliography covers 1000 titles; separate short bibliographies dealing with special phases of the subject are also appended to the chapters of the work that deal with those phases.

**CHILE.** Medina, J. T. *Bibliotheca hispano-chilena (1523-1817)*. Santiago de Chile, 1899. 16 + 654 p. il. fol.

**COMMANDER ISLANDS.** Part 4 of the U. S. Treasury Department report on "Fur seals and fur-seal islands of the north Pacific ocean," by David Starr Jordan and others (1898. 384 p. pl. maps, 4"), contains (p. 232-236) a bibliography of the Commander Islands, by Leonhard J. Stejneger. The author has spent five summers on the islands of the north Pacific and adjacent coasts. While his main object has been the study of the fur seal the present bibliography is general and very exhaustive.

**DRAMA.** A list of the copyright plays which hold the stage in the United States, with the names of their authors and owners, is given in the "American Dramatists' Club list, a standard of reference for the protection of dramatic property." It is issued annually at 1440 Broadway, N. Y.

**ECONOMICS.** Clow, Frederick R. *Economics as a school study*. (*In Economic Studies*, June, 1899, 4: 183-246.)

Contains a five-page bibliography arranged under, a Books and articles on teaching economics, b Text-books.

**ELECTRICITY.** The *Library World* for July, 1899, contains the first of a "Select list of books

on special subjects," which deals with electricity. The list is compiled by F. J. Burgoyne, of the Lambeth Public Libraries; it is classed, and covers six pages.

**HAWAII.** Blackman, William Fremont. *The making of Hawaii: a study in social evolution*. N. Y., Macmillan, 1899. 12 + 266 p. 8". \$2.

Contains a 6-page classified bibliography.

**LAW.** *Bibliographie générale et complète des livres de droit et de jurisprudence, publiées jusqu'au 21 octobre 1898, classé dans l'ordre des codes, avec table alphabétique des matières et des noms des auteurs*. Paris, Marchal et Billard, 1898. 32 + 160 p. 8". 1.50 fr.

**LIQUOR PROBLEM.** Koren, Johan. *Economic aspects of the liquor problem: an investigation made for the Committee of Fifty, under the direction of H. Farnam*. Bost., Houghton, Mifflin & Co., 1899. 10 + 327 p. D. \$1.50.

Contains a bibliography, p. 313-322.

**MYTHOLOGY.** D'Ooge, B. L. *Helps to the study of classical mythology for the lower grades and secondary schools*. Ann Arbor, Mich., Geo. Wahr, 1899. 10 + 180 p. S. 45c.

A useful and well-arranged little manual of reading references, classed under general and individual subjects. The references "are the outgrowth of the class-room, and have demonstrated their practical usefulness in actual results. The references are to such books as are most available in the secondary schools, and include but few to large and expensive works, or to books in foreign languages." The selection of references shows careful work and good judgment; blank pages are inserted for additional entries; a list of the books indexed, with publishers and prices, is added, and there is a useful alphabetic subject index.

**NAPOLEON I.** The *Revue Encyclopedique Larousse* for May 20, 1899 (no. 298), on pages 399-400 contains a list of dramas of which Napoleon I. is the subject. This list was originally contributed to the *Temps* by M. Ad. Aderer. It contains 98 titles.

**POLITICAL PARTIES.** Jameson, J. Franklin. *Bibliography of early party conventions; reprinted from the American Historical Review*, vol. 1, no. 4, July, 1896.

The recent separate issue of Prof. Jameson's useful bibliography will make it more available for reference purposes.

**RUSSIA.** The new bi-monthly *Revue des Etudes Russes* contains a review of current publications on Russia and Russian subjects arranged by languages.

SAVOY. Manno. Ant. Bibliografia storica degli stati della Monarchia di Savoia. Vol. vi. Torino, Bocca, 1898. 539 p. 4°.

SWEDISH DISSERTATIONS. Avhandlingar ock program utgivna vid Svenska ock Finska Akademier ock skolor, under åren 1855-1890. Bibliografi av Akcel G. S. Josephson; med förord of bibliotekarien Claes Annerstedt. Andra delen systematik register. Upsala, i kommission hos Lundequistiska bokhandeln, [1899.] p. 268-344. O.

This is the classified index to Mr. Josephson's bibliography, of which the two previous parts have been recorded in these columns. The index is arranged in 23 main classes, liberally subdivided; the most extensive class is Language and literature, which covers 16 pages.

### Anonymous and Pseudonyms.

JOSIAH FLYNT. — A correspondent writes: "Does anyone know whether the name Josiah Flynt used by the writer on tramp life (in the *Century* and other magazines) is a pseudonym? I have heard that his name is Willard, and that he is the son of an American lady who resides in Germany, which fact would account for some of his German adventures, but I am not sure whether my information is correct or not."

In response to this query the editor of *The Century* writes: "We can only say that the name, Josiah Flynt, is a pseudonym, and we are not at liberty to divulge the name of the writer — though we are not sure that it has not already been announced."

"The valley of the Wyoming: the romance of its history and its poetry; also specimens of Indian eloquence; compiled by a native of the valley. N. Y., R. H. Johnson & Co., 1866. 153 p. 12°.

The author of this book is Lewis Hepburn Miner, now dead; authority of Wyoming Historical Society. S: H. R.

"One hundred sketches and skeletons of sermons. By a dissenting minister." Lond., 1836. The author is Rev. Jabez Burns. I find that these are the first hundred of the "Five hundred sketches and skeletons of sermons, by the author of 'The pulpit cyclopedia.'" The last two books are not only given in Cushing's "Anonyms" as his, but are found in sketches of his life. Cushing also mentions "Sketches and skeleton of sermons" L. 1845, without mentioning the number of sketches.

MRS. H. O. SIBLEY.

The following are taken from the "Catalogue of title entries of books," issued from the office of the Register of Copyrights, Library of Congress:

Enliled, pseud. of Sarah M. De Line, "In primo: a story of facts and factors." 19:7 (My. 18).

"Ecce clerus; or, the Christian minister in many lights; by a student of the times," is by Hosea Hewitt. 19:7 (My. 18, '99).

"An epic of the soul," pub. by T. Whittaker, New York, 1899, is by Greenough White. 19:11 (Je. 15).

"Friends of the fields" is edited by E. N. Sullivan. 19:507 (My. 18).

"Handbook on the holy eucharist" is by Frederic E. Mortimer. 19:682 (Je. 1).

"Marion's year in a German school," pub. by F. T. Neely, New York, 1899, is by Mary L. Hill. 19:10 (Je. 8).

"Notes on Greek architecture and ornament," etc., is by John S. Clark, Mary D. Hicks, and Walter S. Perry. "Notes on Egyptian architecture," etc., is by the same compilers. 19:590 (My. 25).

"The peace-cross book," pub. by R. H. Russell, New York, 1899, is compiled by Henry Yates Satterlee. 19:10 (Je. 8).

"Story of George Washington," pub. by the Wyatt Co., Buffalo, is by L. Gardner Marsh. 18:6 (F. 9).

Gay Parker, pseud. of Miss M. P. Green, in "The fight for dominion," pub. by E. P. Herrick & Co., 1899. 19:8 (My. 25).

### Humors and Blunders.

F. J. BURGOWNE, librarian of the Lambeth (Eng.) Public Libraries, writes in the May number of *The Library World*: "I have received recently several interesting letters which give a side light upon a librarian's life. The first was sent with a copy of Captain Marryat's 'Peter Simple,' and was as follows:

"'I return you a book which my boy has had from your library. He joined it without telling me and I have forbid him borrowing. I am a believer in the second coming of our Lord — see II Peter 3, v. 10-12 — and think it likely that He will do so shortly. How could I meet Him with a clear conscience whilst I had borrowed books in my house? May I respectfully urge upon you to read I. *Thessalonians*, 5, v. 2, and flee from the wrath to come, for, sir, your business is sinful. 'Better be a door-keeper in the house of the Lord, than dwell in the tents of wickedness,' *Psalms* 84, v. 10.'"

"The last specimen I will give caused quite a flutter in the susceptible heart of one of my assistants, for the sender was a pretty girl:

"'Please send me any of Rhoda Broughton's except Lady Patty, Goodbye, sweetheart.

Yours truly ———"

AT THE INFORMATION-DESK.

READER: Have you Henry James's "Two magics?"

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READER, with a puzzled look towards the open shelves: Oh, is *that* what you call that place? — *Hartford P. L. Bulletin*.



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Any one who has within the last few years been in touch with library interests cannot fail to have been impressed by the increasing extent to which private generosity has been enlisted in the library cause. As outward and visible signs of the place that the public library is coming to occupy in public life, the many beautiful buildings erected for its service by private givers are most significant. The ninth report of the Massachusetts Free Library Commission is a revelation of the extent to which this form of philanthropy has found representation in Massachusetts, 120 library buildings being recorded as erected by private givers; while the recent revised edition of the Boston Public Library index to library plans gives further proof of the growth of this tendency. It is interesting to note how many of the buildings recorded in both these lists have been built within the last ten years—so many, that 1890 seems almost to mark a fresh impulse given to this branch of library development. The increasing beauty and fitness of the buildings, too, is gratifying. While no special type seems to have been evolved, and the doctrine of free access seems not yet to have modified stack-room plans, there is evident a growing appreciation of simplicity and dignity, and a realization that a library is built for books and not only for architectural adornments. The present year bids fair to reach high-water mark in its record of library gifts and bequests, and if this form of philanthropy continues to grow in favor it will not be long before the showing made by Massachusetts is equalled by the other states of the Union.

*Audi alteram partem*, and certainly librarians are accustomed to give ready ear to both sides of most questions. Dr. Wire presents the other side of the "evaluation" question in a paper elsewhere, in which his medical training is perhaps shown in his use of the scalpel. It is quite true that any expert is apt to over-emphasize the importance of his own field, and also to forget the limitations of mind on the part of the general public, which is to read books on his subject. Even an "all round" mind with the most comprehensive training is not equipped to utilize the books intended for

experts, and as Dr. Wire points out it is quite easy to overload a catalog with books so specialized as not to be of general service. This is not, however, an argument against evaluation of books, but rather an emphasis of the importance of evaluation on proper lines and within proper limits. In other words, the opinion of the scientific expert should be balanced by the opinion of the expert librarian. Thus, while the librarian should know, as Dr. Wire indicates, the limitations and characteristics of his readers, he may well utilize for his guidance the opinions of those who should know the limitations and characteristics of special classes of books. The case of the librarian who placed Renan's "Vie de Jésus" in a selection of "Books for Lenten reading" is not an imaginary one, and it is probable that a little "expert advice" would have resulted in a better choice. There is a happy medium between books for cramming and books of specialization, and it is the business of evaluation, properly worked, to strike that happy mean.

ON one subject there is no longer another side in America, although our English brethren are still divided into hostile camps, not unevenly balanced. Almost no one, apparently, is left in America to oppose free access to shelves—the only question being the limitations within which that is possible. Question has been raised whether there is not a contradiction in recent statements made in the JOURNAL referring to the late Dr. Guild as a "pioneer in the open-shelf movement for college libraries" and also to the Pawtucket Library as "inaugurating the open-shelf system in public libraries." While there seems, perhaps, an implied contradiction in this, it should be pointed out that in one case reference is made to the special field of college work and in the other to the work of a popular library. Our correspondent adds, "The Nantucket Library, in which I passed part of a summer vacation in 1849 or 1850, was an open-shelf library." There is no doubt that free access, like the two-book system, and indeed most other features of library work has been practised to some extent in individual instances before being brought to gen-

eral attention by those who may fairly be called pioneers in its development. While appreciating that fact, it is not unfair to emphasize as pioneer service the work of Mrs. Sanders who at conferences and in all places, in season and perhaps some have thought out of season, has stood for the principle that the public should have access to the shelves in the popular library.

It is always difficult to trace historically the absolute origin of this or that practice, especially in these modern times when the world seems to reach a point of development in which the same idea occurs simultaneously to many people. This is true of the free-access principle, and it is also true of the circulation of art material in library fashion. Years ago, not long after the organization of the A. L. A., Miss Ellen D. Hale, daughter of the Rev. E. E. Hale, was one of the pioneers in this movement, which we think originated in Massachusetts, and now the work has broadened so that it is carried on in modified forms by individual libraries, by state commissions—as in Wisconsin—and in interesting fashion as a feature of the general work of the Massachusetts Library Club. The plan of associating this kind of work with libraries follows the English precedent, in which art galleries and museums are associated with the library in so many municipalities, and certainly it is a happy combination.

### Communications.

#### OLD SWEDISH BOOKS—INFORMATION WANTED.

I SHOULD like to inquire, through the agency of L. J., whether any library possesses any of the following old Swedish books, in which case I would be obliged for full collation of the same. The four books, bound together, formerly belonging to a minister of the church in Sweden, were said to have been sold in 1803 or thereabout to an "agent for American libraries":

1. Een nyttwgh | vnderwijsning wthwr |  
schrifterne om men | niskiones fall, . . .  
[8½ lines] [M.D.XXVI.]

224 unnumbered pages in 24 sheets, with signatures A-Av to O-Ov. The copy in question lacks the whole of sheet A and B, and the following leaves: C, Cij, F, Nij, Oij, Ov, and Os.

2. Een skön nyttgh vnderwisningh allom  
chvistnom menniskiom . . . [1826?]

I can give no collation of this, because this copy is said to belong to an edition that is otherwise unknown. Also this is incomplete.

3. En liten in | gong i thñ helga scrift | . . .  
[5 lines] | Stockholm | MDXXIX.

22 unnumbered pages, with signatures: Aij, Aijj, Aijj [sic], Bj, [Bij?], Blij, Bliij, Bv. Also incomplete.

4. [Nagre gndhelige wijsor vthdragne aff then  
Helga Skrift, . . . Stockholm, 1530]

8+(8?) unnumbered leaves, the first 8 with signatures: Aij-Av.

This copy lacks t. p. and ends with leaf 8, the last page of which is blank. Aij begins: "O Fadher waar barmhertigh godh." The last blank page has a psalm written in ma., beginning: "I betleem skedde herdvmen mon."

Any one who can give information regarding these books would greatly oblige

AKSEL G. S. JOSEPHSON.

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Chicago.

#### OBJECT LESSONS.

A BOOK was discovered, not long since, on the shelves of the children's room of the Milwaukee Public Library, which was badly mutilated. Some child had evidently amused himself by making criss-cross marks, with a knife, upon the covers. An injury of this sort is so unusual that it aroused both surprise and indignation.

To find out the sentiment of the children in regard to such an act, the following notice was posted, with the injured book, on a conspicuous place:

"I should like to know what the boys and girls think of any one who would injure a book like this. Does he or she deserve to come to our room?"

"Put your answers to this question in the box on the counter."

About 80 or 90 answers were put in the box within a short time. A few of the answers are printed, to show the righteous indignation which was aroused among the children:

"In such a case as that the person ought to be suspended from the library and also be compelled to pay a heavy fine, or else sent to jail. (Signed) One of the boys that protects the children's room."

"I think the boy or girl who would injure a book in such a way ought to be promptly discharged from the library."

"No, they don't deserve any privileges. I never did such things as that to any book and I hope no more will injure any."

"Should not come to the library till he is 21 years old."

"In a case like that you ought to apply to the rule of the book-pocket very strictly."

"I think that a boy or girl who inger a book like this outo pay as much as the book cost and not to come to the library."

In the case of a bicycle injury the book was hung on the wall, and with it a word of caution in regard to the way books might be strapped, with safety, to wheels.

Nothing in my experience has ever been so effectual in checking accidental or intentional injury to books as the foregoing method.

MARY E. DOUSMAN.

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## DISCRIMINATION REGARDING "OPEN SHELVES" IN LIBRARIES.\*

BY SAMUEL SWETT GREEN, *Librarian Worcester (Mass.) Public Library.*

IN 1890 I took part in a symposium in the LIBRARY JOURNAL on this subject, speaking sympathetically regarding the movement, then in its infancy, for open shelves. My attitude is sympathetic to-day.

The plan has been in vogue now for several years. What have we learned from observation and experience?

It is evidently a good thing where practicable to allow users of a library to rummage freely among books and select such as they wish to read or study. The plan is still growing in favor. It seems to me desirable that it should be adopted by the public libraries of the smaller and larger towns, in cities of moderate size, and in the branches of libraries in large cities. It is practicable, also, to use the plan in the main libraries of large cities where the libraries are composed mainly of inexpensive books, which can readily be replaced if they disappear and where considerable supervision is exercised.

In many libraries architectural difficulties interfere with the adoption of the plan.

In one library where free access to the shelves is allowed and which has a very large circulation, the central library is in a very large room. The books are placed along the walls, and from the centre of the room persons who go to the shelves are under observation.

All persons go to the shelves without asking permission, select such books as they desire, bring them to the desk to be charged and then pass through a passageway of some length in which they are quietly looked over by an attendant. The more valuable books in the collection are kept in a separate room and greater restrictions in regard to their use are enforced. Such arrangements make open shelves practicable even in a large city.

I think of another library in which the books are kept in rooms on five floors connected by an elevator. With such an arrangement of a building the expense of keeping users under observation would be large.

For the sake of economy in space most large libraries have of late years been housed in stacks. Books in stacks are not so readily guarded, if free access to shelves is allowed, as when ar-

ranged around large rooms or in cases radiating from a central desk, as the spokes of a wheel from the hub.

When, however, architectural difficulties prevent allowance of free access to the whole library, shelves on which a few hundred or thousand books can be displayed may generally be provided. On these shelves new books would, of course, be placed, and old ones of an interesting character which have been overlooked by users or which are in demand by them. It is practicable, of course, to exhibit in this way collections so systematically selected that the more popular portions of the whole library will in time be displayed for free access. Something more extensive is often practicable. It may be found possible, for example, to give up an entire room or even story to the exhibition of books among which readers may rummage freely.

Whatever plan is adopted it should be borne in mind that the books should be properly guarded and the property of the town or city taken care of. The losses of libraries which allow free access to the shelves are necessarily considerable, and in the case of institutions in large places, sometimes very large. The best showing which I have seen is that of 13 small English libraries in which what is called "safe-guarded" open access is allowed. The results may be found in no. 107 of volume 1 of the English periodical, *The Library World*.† "We gather," says this periodical, "from the table aforesaid that these libraries contain 137,783 volumes in their lending departments; that up to date they have issued 2,561,888 volumes, out of which only 93, costing £10 18. 3d., were lost; or one volume, value 2s. 2d., in every 27,547 volumes circulated."

Let us look at the statistics of some of the large libraries of this country which have open shelves. Some of these do not deem it prudent to give the figures representing losses; others give them without hesitation.

The first free public library of considerable size to adopt the plan of free access to the shelves was that of Cleveland, Ohio. Other larger places which have adopted this

\* Paper prepared for Atlanta Conference of American Library Association, May, 1899.

† See also L. J., April, p. 166.

plan in public libraries are Minneapolis, Philadelphia, and Denver.

In Cleveland, I find by late printed reports, the net losses of books were in 1893-4, 194 volumes; in 1894-5, 426 volumes; in 1895-6, 808 volumes; in 1896-7, 430 volumes. According to the last report but one of the Minneapolis Public Library, that institution had just taken account of stock, and found that its losses for a series of years had averaged 200 volumes. "The loss was less in the central library," writes the librarian, "because permits are required there for going to the shelves." The losses in Station C are three times as great as in Station A. The losses in Station B are four times as great as in Station A. The reason for the heavier losses in Stations B and C is that the architectural features of the quarters of these stations are such that persons going to the shelves cannot be closely watched as in the rooms occupied by Station A.

The Free Library of Philadelphia publishes no statement of losses. Its circulation is very large and its losses are known to be large.

In the last report of the Public Library at Denver, to which I have access, losses are not given. A few months ago I wrote to Mr. Dudley, the librarian of the City Library, to find what the losses in the Public Library at Denver have been. He replied as follows: "At the Public Library's inventory, taken about the time Dana left, the number of books which could not be accounted for was 1632. This was the record for three years and five months. I do not know how many could not be found at the previous stock-taking in 1894, but remember that Mr. Parsons, the present librarian, told me at that time that the number was so large he did not care to tell me what it was." The largest percentage of books stolen, adds Mr. Dudley, was in the department of cookery. That fact bears a little hard, does it not, on the gentler sex which is now purifying the ballot by voting in Colorado?

November 24, 1879, I arrested a notorious book-thief in the Free Public Library, Worcester. I cannot give the particulars here, but they will be found in the *LIBRARY JOURNAL* (L. J. 5:48). He had a list of books which could be sold at good prices, or carried the titles of several such books in his head, and went around from town to town taking out library cards and getting valuable books on them. When searched at the police office in

Worcester cards were found on him giving the privileges of a resident issued by libraries in Milford, Walpole, Franklin, Medfield, Marlborough, Northborough, Sherborn, and Foxborough. He had also stolen books from public libraries in Brookline, Stoneham, Melrose, Medfield, Somerville, Brockton, Weston, and Waltham. I arrested him for stealing books from the Clinton Public Library, and he tried, unsuccessfully, to steal books from the Free Public Library at Worcester.

Early in 1892, in Pawtucket, R. I., a woman stole from the public library, which allows free access to the shelves, 500 of the best books in the library before she was discovered. She was one of the last persons to be suspected, being a woman of culture, college bred and formerly a teacher in Maine and New Hampshire. She had means, also. She said she took the books because she loved them, and circumstances seemed to indicate that that was true. She was shocked when the word "stealing" was applied to her acts. The books stolen in Pawtucket were recovered; those stolen by the thief whom I arrested were not recovered, probably excepting in a few instances.

It does not follow, however, that because losses in large public libraries are heavy that the plan of open shelves should be given up. I am not aware that any one of the large places just mentioned desires to discontinue the privileges of free access to the shelves. Every library must consider for itself whether the benefits or evils of the system are the greater. It does seem, however, desirable that efforts should be made to detect thieves. We pray not to be led into temptation; we should be careful not to make it too easy to steal and encourage the formation of the habit of stealing or lead to its intensification.

Besides the losses which libraries incur by allowing free access to the shelves, they suffer much from the misplacement of books. Their replacement is facilitated by close classification and the use of tags of different colors and sizes.

It should be stated, however, that besides the advantages to be derived from immediate contact with books there is a saving in expense for runners, in having persons pick out their own books and bring them to the desk to be charged.

So much for circulating libraries or for libraries, large or small, made up mainly of popular, inexpensive books.

Shall persons be admitted to the shelves of valuable reference libraries?

The rule in force for many years in the reference department of the Free Public Library in Worcester has been that when a person wishes to go to the shelves containing the portion of the library which comprises the class of books he is, at the time, interested in, he shall be taken there by an attendant, who is to stay with him until he has made such an examination as he wishes and picked out the books that he desires to use for a considerable period of time. Then the books are taken to a study-room where he can use them comfortably, and keep them while he needs them, and charged to him.

We have, of course, a collection of encyclopædias, dictionaries, and other general works of reference where they can be taken from the shelves and used without asking permission. We have also placed on open shelves a few thousand books such as studiously inclined persons like to consult or rummage among, in addition to encyclopædias, etc., usually exposed in libraries.

There are some college libraries which for many years have allowed professors, other instructors, and, to a more or less limited extent, students, to go to the shelves unattended, by asking permission or even without asking leave. In 1877 the late Mr. Justin Winsor became the librarian of Harvard University. He instituted the practice of allowing members of the faculty and students pursuing special studies to have cards admitting the holders to specified portions of the stack in which the books of the library are kept. He also put by themselves a considerable number of books that students needed to consult in connection with their college studies, reserved them for them, and allowed them to go to the shelves where they are and use them without ceremony. This plan, with certain restrictions which it has been found necessary to adopt, has proved a success. Still the library is very much troubled by its losses and other annoyances. Between 1883 and 1897 inclusive the actual losses have been 699 volumes. The displacement of books has also given the officers of the library a large amount of trouble. I remember that in 1857 or 1858 the son of a high government official was discovered to be regularly stealing books from Harvard College Library and selling them to keepers of old book stores in Boston. He was, of course, summarily expelled from college.

There are dangers and probably increased labors attendant upon allowing open shelves, to a limited degree, in college libraries.

Again, too, the constituency of a college or university library is a comparatively small and a picked constituency. I do not understand that it has been found wise to abridge the privileges in college libraries. I presume that the general opinion is that they should be kept up, notwithstanding losses and annoyances hitherto encountered.

Can the privileges which it is comparatively safe to allow to the frequenters of a college library be extended to the users of a free public reference library in which all residents have equal rights?

To take an extreme case, would it be well to turn the people of Great Britain loose into the collections of priceless books belonging to the British Museum? Should all persons in the United States be allowed to roam unattended through the stacks in the Congressional Library? Consider the cases of the Astor and Lenox Libraries, the Peabody Institute, Baltimore, and a strictly municipal institution such as the Boston Public Library. The question answers itself.

It is sufficiently safe to leave books in a bookstore or garments in a clothing store exposed under comparatively slight supervision. Greater watchfulness is needed where diamonds, gold watches, and silverware are sold. Take my own case in Worcester. Some persons would say, perhaps, that we should not buy expensive books. But it seems best to look after the needs of higher educational institutions, to a reasonable extent, and to give leading minds in the community works, high-priced though they be, needed by them and which will be used in gathering information that will be generally disseminated throughout the community in which the library is placed. Besides, the library in Worcester has a fund, the income of which, by the terms of the gift, is to be spent in adding to the reference library.

While the loss of a few hundred volumes, annually, from a collection of popular books may be of small account, the same number of books taken from a valuable reference library would be a loss which could only be made good at a great cost, if at all.

I am not speaking of corporation libraries, which allow privileges that stockholders vote

to allow, and which have limited and somewhat choice constituencies; I am only speaking of libraries in which all residents have equal privileges. The risk of loss of books and of mutilation of books is considered too great to be taken.

Another great evil which follows the admission of persons, unattended, to the shelves, is, as in the case of the circulating libraries, misplacement of books. A book misplaced is a book temporarily lost. You tell a user not to put up again the books which he takes down, but to leave them for an attendant to put up. He becomes absorbed in his work and forgets to follow the rule, putting up books, very likely, wherever he sees a vacant place.

In speaking to the late Mr. Knapp, recently the reference librarian of the Boston Public Library, on this matter of admission to the shelves, he said: "Did I ever tell you about my experience with ———," mentioning the name of a brilliant lecturer. "He wanted," he said, "to make a bibliography of a certain kind of books. I sent a boy with him to the range of shelves containing the books, and he did his work. When he and the boy came back the latter said that he feared the gentleman had put up some of the books in the wrong places. I went to the shelves and found 149 books out of place."

It is stated, in a general way, that 90,000 volumes can be examined by students and readers at the shelves in the Boston Public Library. But the only open shelves, strictly speaking, are those in Bates Hall, the children's room and the room for Patent Office reports. The books in the upper story, the great bulk of the 90,000, cannot be handled freely. These books are placed on shelves around large rectangular rooms, containing corps of attendants. Some of them, the Barton and Ticknor collections, are behind locked doors with wire netting in front. Visitors can look at the backs of the books in the upper story, but are not allowed to take them off the shelves. If from the titles

on the backs of the books a reader judges that he should like to look into the books, he can call an attendant who will take down the books for him to use in the room where he is, under the supervision of the custodians of the room.

If he could have made certain architectural changes in the building of the Boston Public Library, Mr. Putnam, its late librarian, would have liked to open the popular portion of the library to the public and let readers rummage among books at the shelves. But he never dreamed of doing this with the bulk of the reference portions of the library. He wrote me not long ago as follows: "I entirely agree that there is a difference between a library like the Minneapolis and one like the Boston Public with reference to free access. In a library of the former type free access can be given to almost every book; in a library of the latter 'kind' it can be given to only a portion of the collection. To open all the shelves of the Boston Public Library direct to the miscellaneous public without formality would be folly."

I should add to what I have said that whatever rules are adopted in a library there will be exceptions in their execution. As a general rule in regard to admission to shelves in reference libraries I can think of no better one than that which I mentioned as in use in Worcester, namely, to send an attendant to the shelves with anybody wishing to visit them or to consult books of a certain class; let the inquirer spend what time he wishes in looking at books, and when he has picked out such as he wishes to examine with care, carry those books for him to a study-room.

I wish also to say that open shelves are not a panacea. Most persons are best helped to what they want by the personal assistance of sympathetic and accomplished librarians. Real students often prefer to use a good catalog, and need the aid of the catalogs and the suggestions of librarians in order to find all matter in a library on a given subject.

## THE LIBRARY ART CLUB.\*

BY ALICE G. CHANDLER, *Lancaster, Mass.*

DURING 1897 the Massachusetts Library Club tried the experiment of lending pictures to be passed from one library to another. This succeeded so well that it seemed a pity more material could not be obtained for such work. A few libraries with large incomes can purchase enough pictures to give varied exhibitions, but with most libraries the money is exhausted long before the necessary books are obtained, or a hundred other wants supplied. It was resolved to try an experiment in co-operation, and there was little difficulty in finding 22 libraries enterprising enough to expend a five dollar bill for a year's trial of the idea.

On Jan. 13, 1898, representatives of these libraries met at the Boston Public Library, and a committee was appointed to draw up a constitution and expend the first \$100 on as good a photographic representation of the city of Venice as could be obtained for that sum. The photographs had to be imported, mounted, and marked, and it was late in the spring before they were ready for circulation. On May 31 a second meeting was held and the following constitution was adopted:

## I. — NAME.

This organization shall be called THE LIBRARY ART CLUB.

## II. — OBJECT.

Its object shall be to obtain and exhibit photographs of other works of art.

## III. — MEMBERS.

Any library in New England may become a member upon payment of the entrance fee and the annual assessment, and remain a member as long as dues are paid.

Any art or reading club, village improvement society, or similar organization in New England may, upon application, become a member by vote of the Executive Committee, subject to the above conditions, provided that the pictures are used for free exhibition in its respective city or town.

Any member desiring to resign must send a written notice to the Secretary.

## IV. — OFFICERS.

The officers of the Club shall consist of a President, two Vice-Presidents, a Secretary, and a Treasurer, to be elected by ballot at the annual meeting, who shall together constitute the Executive Committee, and serve until their successors are chosen. In the event of any vacancy occurring in the Executive Committee after the annual meeting, the Committee shall have the power of filling such vacancy.

## V. — MEETINGS.

The annual meeting of the Club shall be held the first Wednesday in May, provided that the date may be changed in any year when all the members of the Executive Committee so agree. Special meetings shall be called by the Executive Committee, or by the President, upon the written application of any five members.

Each library or other association may be represented by one person entitled to vote for it at such meetings.

The subjects to be illustrated shall be decided at any meeting, unless left to the decision of the Executive Committee.

## VI. — DUES AND OBLIGATIONS.

The annual assessment shall be \$5.00, payable at the time of the annual meeting. Any member not paying the same within four months from that date, having been notified, shall cease to be a member.

After January 1, 1900, an entrance fee of \$5.00 shall be required, in addition to the regular assessment.

Each member shall be considered responsible for any collection in its custody, and damage shall be made good to the satisfaction of the Executive Committee. No debt or obligation of any kind shall be contracted on behalf of the Club, except by a vote of the Executive Committee.

## VII. — EXHIBITIONS.

All exhibitions of the Club shall be under the direction of the Executive Committee, to whom requests for loans of the Club's property shall be made. All charges for transportation and all other expenses of exhibition shall be paid by the member receiving and exhibiting the collection.

## VIII. — AMENDMENTS.

This constitution may be amended by a three-fourths vote of those present at any stated meeting, notice of the proposed change having been given in the call for the meeting.

It was found at this meeting that enough new members had joined to allow the purchase of additional photographs, and it was voted to illustrate the city of Florence. This was done in two sets of photographs, one of which was ready in the autumn, and the second late in the winter. The committee also obtained various loan exhibitions. The Boston and Maine railroad prepared especially for us a set of 100 views of New England scenery, taken by their photographer, H. G. Peabody, and the Rutland railroad volunteered a set on Vermont from the same expert hand. A contrast to these was furnished by southern and western pictures lent by the Missouri Pacific and Denver and Rio Grande railroads. It would be difficult to purchase finer photographs of the scenery of our country than those shown in these four exhibits.

\* Read at the meeting of the Massachusetts Library Club, Plymouth, June 26, 1899.

The Appalachian Mountain Club generously lent their magnificent Sella collection of Alpine and Caucasian views, which was divided into three parts, as but few libraries are able to exhibit the whole collection at once. Prang's Educational Company provided 50 of their beautiful reproductions of famous works of art, and the *Youth's Companion*, original drawings of their illustrations. A similar set came in later in the year from *Scribner's Magazine*. Another late addition is a set of beautiful platinotype prints from Mr. E. E. Soderholtz, and a miscellaneous photographic exhibition is made up of contributions from the *American Amateur Photographer* of New York, of photographs of live animals from Dr. R. W. Shufeldt, of Washington, and 20 valuable astronomical photographs from the observatory of Harvard College.

At the annual meeting, May 9, 1899, the committee were able to report 15 sets as the result of one year's work. Of course many of these were not available for use until late in the year, in fact three of them have just started, and the number of exhibitions in any one library did not exceed four, which will be considerably increased for the coming year. At this meeting it was voted to purchase sets on Holland, Germany, Japan, Rome, and Oxford. A Japanese collection of colored photographs has been purchased. Amsterdam was selected as the entering wedge for Holland, and our list of selections is now on the ocean. We hope to order the others before long, so that autumn will see them in circulation.

In addition to these we have just received photographs from the Southern Pacific Railroad, and from the one railroad of Newfoundland. A collection illustrating the Revolutionary War is in preparation by a chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution, an exhibition of book-plates is being arranged, and collections of local photographs from the cities and towns belonging to the club.

The time allowed between each exchange of pictures was at first two weeks; but later the executive committee voted that, in consideration of the increase in the number of collections, the length of each exhibit will be three weeks, including the time necessary for expressing. It is intended that every library shall be notified from four to six weeks beforehand, with a printed list of the exhibition when there is one, as is generally the case. This gives sufficient time and information for the

preliminary advertising and other preparations.

Some small difficulties have been encountered during the year, but as a whole, considering the novelty of the experiment, everything has worked smoothly and to the general satisfaction. The club is doing good work, and with a continuance of the spirit of cordial co-operation that has thus far been shown, it should improve with every new year.

The membership list as it stands to-day shows that the club has no limit or distinctive characteristic, embracing libraries, like Cambridge and Newton, of the larger cities, through all sizes down to the small country towns. Nor has distance had any effect upon the membership, the more remote towns finding the club's privileges as easily secured and as useful as the more central localities. The club now numbers 54 members—46 in Massachusetts, 1 in Maine, 3 in New Hampshire, 2 in Vermont, and 2 in Rhode Island.

The election of officers at the last meeting was followed by two resignations, which were regretfully accepted, and the vacancies filled by the executive committee, which now stands: President, Alice G. Chandler, Lancaster; Vice-presidents, C. A. Cutter, Northampton, Mary E. Sargent, Medford; Secretary, Winifred B. Smith, Cambridge; Treasurer, Elizabeth P. Thurston, Newton.

In this connection I should like to say a few words with reference to the space needed for such exhibitions. It is often said, "We should like to join the Art Club, but we have no room." "Where there's a will there's a way." I have not yet seen a library too small to show pictures. Probably the member of our club with the smallest room is Peterborough, N. H. The whole building is 67 by 30; part of this is a stack-room; the other part, 27 feet square, delivery, reference, and reading room; but they have taken our largest sets and made no complaints. A better example still is a small library at Oxford, south of Worcester. This library does not belong to the club, but has received pictures from the Woman's Educational Association, and a few weeks ago showed a collection of 130 pictures. The librarian has a space 20 feet square, out of which must be taken doors and windows, and in which is placed, as in Peterborough, everything that the crowded stack will not hold. She hung the set, half at a time, and is ready for more.

There is no better way to overcome the de-

iciencies of a building than to keep forcing them on the attention of the public. To say, once in a while, that exhibitions of pictures could be given, if there was suitable room, conveys no special idea; but keep hanging them up, no matter how crowded and uncom-

fortable the space may be, and you give a series of object lessons that sooner or later will have an effect, somewhat on the principle of General Grant's dictum, "The best way to ensure the repeal of a bad law is its rigid enforcement."

### EXPERT ADVICE WHICH IS NOT EXPERT.

BY DR. G. E. WIRE, *Worcester County Law Library.*

THE point I wish to make received only recently a notable illustration at the second Dreyfus trial in Rennes, when M. Bertillon, who has elaborated an anthropometric scheme known by his name, attempted to testify concerning handwriting of which he knew nothing. Consequently he made a fool of himself.

This will serve as a text for a few remarks on "expert" testimony regarding books for public libraries. I am not writing about college libraries, or university libraries, though they may well come within the range of my remarks. Over and over again we hear of some book list or portions of a book list, especially natural science or useful arts, which have been submitted to this or that person as an "expert," or because he is a professor in some college or high school. What is the result? A list far inferior for all-round practical use to one made by the librarian himself. Any expert by the very limitation of the word is narrowed down to one thing—he could not be an expert unless he were. Consequently he knows naught, cares naught for the world of science or arts outside his own narrow doorway.

When I was in charge of the Medical Department of the Newberry Library, Chicago, I had for a time a committee of some of the best allopathic physicians in the city who were supposed to recommend books for purchase. At that time I was not allowed to buy any book which had not the approval of this committee. Not one of them ever gave me a single title or voluntarily recommended a single book. What I did was to make out my list and then go around and get their sanction, if I could. Some of the books they had not heard of, some they had no use for because not in their department, and so on. Of course I submitted the titles of no eclectic or homœopathic books;

that would have been worse than useless. Later on I had to submit my periodical list to a man with not only a national but also an international fame as a surgeon, also allopathic, for his benediction. He scored about everything outside of his own department—dentistry, pharmacy, practice of medicine, therapeutics, pædiatrics, and wanted to cut out most of the homœopathic periodicals. This was a case of "expert" opinion in a public reference library.

How often do we hear that such a list on botany or geology or wood-carving or electricity has been submitted to this and that "professor" or "expert."

What does it all amount to? In the first place, because a man is a professor is no sign he knows the literature of his profession. As a rule he knows but little of it. Then his personal animosity, his quarrels over his hobbies, his jealousy, lead him to mark off many a book better than he can write. He is ignorant of many titles, and will not want to confess that ignorance, and so they are crossed off. Then he wants to magnify his own department; mosses, for instance, may be in botany, or palæontology in geology, and so he overloads the list in those directions. It is a great temptation to get the library to buy books which he alone can use. I am opposed to such book-buying in a public library, unless from a special fund. Especially does this apply to small 5000-volume public libraries, as I have pointed out in *L. J.* for July, 1899, 24 : C63-65.

Not long since I helped round out a list of medical books which was published by the American Academy of Medicine. It was started by a surgeon as a list of books and periodicals for an allopathic medical college library. It was mainly anatomy, pathology, general surgery, special surgery, as eye, ear, laryngology, gynecology, etc. We put in education, ethics, his-

tory of medicine, general periodicals, practice of medicine, and also a representation of all the specialties, and so made a very fair list. I have no hesitation in saying that any live librarian can make a much better list for his library, knowing as he does the limits of his book fund and the wants of his people, than any such expert or college or high-school professor. The latter will put in the "classics" or severely technical books—if he knows enough—and, anyhow, will sneer at Gray's books or Winchell's works as being out of date or unscientific, whereas they are more bread to the people than his own stones of classics or laboratory manuals. As for such books as "How to know the wild flowers" and the like, he utterly condemns them for no good and sufficient reason. This tendency is to be seen in our own "A. L. A. catalog," where the medicine is an atrocious selection, the electricity is no better, and the religion is a thing to be abhorred.

It is better a good deal to take the advice of a librarian or two who has had a little the start of you in point of time. Pick out his latest and freshest books in these lines. Do not list any book in sciences or useful arts more than five years old at first. After a time, if you have money and leisure, you can go back and buy at auction and second-hand some really good books, but frequently these will come in by gift if you have them not already. But beware of experts who are not experts, but only false prophets.

### SOME LIBRARY APHORISMS.

*From the Library World.*

If you cannot classify a book—don't buy it. It is better to criticise a catalog than to compile one.

Mistakes are generally made by absent assistants.

Library statistics never lie—it would be an impolite invasion of the librarian's province.

If you want your own way, square the chairman.

A book in the hand is worth two at the binder's.

The librarian who doesn't advertise himself is lost.

A stingy librarian makes a stingy committee.

A misguided ambition to get married is the main cause of the zeal of library assistants for advancement.

The librarian who invented everything before anybody else was born is generally a man with a strongly developed inventive faculty.

### LIBRARY HOURS.

At the recent annual meeting of the Ohio Library Association the subject of the hours of service required of librarians and assistants was made the subject of a symposium, which proved of such general interest that it is here given practically in full.

Miss Laura Smith, of Cincinnati, opened the discussion with a short paper, to accompany which she had prepared a table showing the hours of service required in 11 well-known libraries, as follows:

Buffalo Public Library requires 48 hours weekly service, gives half holidays in July and August, and gives 30 days' time allowance for illness.

Boston Public Library has daily hours of from 9 to 5 for catalogers, 9 to 6 for other assistants; gives half holidays throughout the year; allowance for illness not stated.

Springfield City Library requires from 43 to 46 hours a week; gives half holidays throughout the year, and gives time allowance for illness.

Chicago Public Library has daily hours of 9 to 5 for catalogers, 9 to 5.30 for others, and gives half holidays from May to October; allowance for illness not stated.

John Crerar Library has daily hours of 9 to 5.30, "shorter in summer"; half holidays throughout the year; allowance for illness given "sometimes."

St. Louis Public Library requires eight hours daily, with half holidays during eight months; allows time for illness.

Detroit Public Library requires eight hours daily; no half holidays; half pay during illness.

Minneapolis Public Library requires "nominal eight hours, practically seven and a half"; no half holidays; half pay for a month during illness.

Princeton University requires 200 and 182 hours of service a month; allows for illness "sometimes."

Carnegie Library, Pittsburgh, requires seven and a half hours; half holidays throughout the year; allows 12 working days for illness.

New York State Library requires seven and a half hours daily; half holidays throughout the year; allows for illness.

Miss Smith said: If people are not happy or interested in their work they cannot be successful; and if the individual members of a staff are unsuccessful the whole library suffers, for a chain is only as strong as its weakest link. A quotation from Ruskin seems to apply to this subject particularly well—that "in order that people may be happy in their work these three things are needed: they must be fit for it; they must not do too much of it; and they must have a sense of fitness in it."

The length of the working day in this profession is of vital importance from the side of the library and of the public, as well as from the standpoint of the assistant.

The usefulness and good name of the institution depend to a very large extent upon the efficiency of the assistants—upon those who



have charge of the reference and circulating departments, because they must come in contact with the public; and upon the classifiers and catalogers, because in that department is the engine which keeps the machinery of the library in successful operation, increasing or lessening the work of every other department, according to the amount of intelligence shown in making available everything that the library contains on every subject.

Therefore, if the library will preserve its reputation and broaden its field of usefulness it must require from its assistants intelligence and courtesy toward the public. Courtesy and quick wit are not boon companions of fatigue, either mental or physical, and they can never be made to go hand in hand.

The number of hours required must depend upon the size of the library, the qualifications and the number of assistants; but the hours should never be so long that the physical strength will be overtaxed.

The close application and constant concentration of mind demanded by much of the work done in libraries is wearing and wearisome in the extreme, and many workers in the field keep up their nervous energy when the brain is really too tired to do good work.

An argument in favor of a half holiday is that aside from the relaxation from routine work and the consequent renewed energy, it gives an opportunity to broaden one's horizon—a thing very much to be desired in library work.

A reasonable amount of time should be allowed for genuine illness; otherwise the library will actually lose time by an attendant appearing for duty when unfit for work.

The statistics upon which to base this discussion have been gathered from 11 of the best known and most successful libraries of the country outside of Ohio. Eight hours daily service is required in two of the libraries, six and one-half in one, an average of seven in one, and seven and one-half in all the rest; the whole averaging a little less than seven and one-half hours. Eight of the 11 allow a half holiday, and one shortens the hours somewhat in summer. Eight allow time for illness. Five of these allow full pay, two allow half pay, and two make special arrangements. Four of these libraries—Carnegie of Pittsburgh, Buffalo, Springfield, and Princeton University—have adopted the hour system, *i. e.*, so many hours per week or per month, rather than a stated number of hours per day.

Miss OLIVE JONES\*: This is a question in which I am intensely interested, though not so much because it touches my own library. The University of Ohio has been very generous to the workers in its library; it has not required long hours from any of them. The reason is that the university has recognized that it must have intellectual workers there. We cannot have people in the library who are completely worn out by rush work. We must have people with time and energy after they leave the library to keep up with the best read-

ing, to keep up with the reviews, to keep up hard study. Three assistants at the university library, two of them being graduates from the university, carried on post-graduate work in the university through an entire year. Two of the assistants have been through the summer vacation taking advance work an hour a day. We require six and one-half hours a day and give a half holiday every week, so that you can see that my interest in the matter is not a personal one. But it is owing to my interest in the profession as a whole. I want to see the library profession brought to where we are claiming it should be—one of the learned professions—and I want to make an earnest plea to the Ohio Library Association to recognize the fact that the workers in a library who are brain workers must have short hours if they are going to be really and truly intellectual workers. In large libraries there is a great deal of clerical work that can be done, I presume, by people who are not experts; but heads of departments, all those doing the real work of the library, are those for whom I am speaking. In smaller libraries where all the work is done by one or two there can be no such division, but there should be a general decision and consideration regarding the amount of brain work which can be done and which should be required, with the best results to the library.

Miss WOOD, Cleveland: While the branches of the Cleveland Public Library are regulated by the main library, the required number of hours are not the same. At the main library the required number of hours is eight, but under the new rule by which we have been working for the past nine months the branch library assistants have been required to give nine and a half hours on account of the number of evenings they were required to serve. The work there is chiefly done in the afternoons and evenings, for the libraries are not now open in the morning. In the afternoon we have first the students from the high school; later on come students from the normal school; then in the evening comes the heaviest work, as the older people from the neighborhood come in. The branch libraries are really neighborhood libraries.

The PRESIDENT: The question is suggested whether seven and a half hours' work is too fatiguing, whether it could be reduced with profit to the library?

Miss WOOD: I think it could be reduced with profit.

Mrs. JERMAIN, Toledo: In the Toledo Public Library when I entered it we were obliged to remain from seven o'clock in the morning until nine o'clock at night. There was a very small staff, and we worked until we were so exhausted that it was difficult to get up the next morning and go to work again. When I became librarian I thought it necessary to ask of the trustees a six-hour day for each assistant. The constant going to and from the shelves was such fatiguing work that three hours of it at a time seemed as long as we could well bear it. These hours were granted. The salaries received were small and there were no holidays or half holidays, and in case of illness assistants must pay

\*The discussion is summarized from the official minutes of the meeting.

substitutes for the time they are absent; and it has always seemed to me that our assistants were giving all of their strength that it was desirable or right for them to give. Perhaps in libraries where there is free access the assistants might be able to endure the hours without so much fatigue.

The PRESIDENT: It is not a question of endurance, or ought not to be.

Miss AHERN: It is a question of endurance, because the assistants are on their feet all the time, and it is exhausting to their physical and intellectual strength to be so constantly occupied for so many hours.

The PRESIDENT: I did not mean that as you understood it. It seems to me entirely proper that this association should take some formal action in this matter and submit the subject to library trustees throughout the state and try to secure some uniformity of system. What I meant to say was that it ought not to be a question of endurance, because the hours ought not to be long enough to make such a strain upon endurance.

Miss AHERN: This question has been taken up several times at meetings of the A. L. A., and I recall a statement upon it made at one of the conferences. In this case it was found that, in the cataloging department particularly, as much work of a better grade was accomplished with short hours as was done with long hours. The average time in which efficient, accurate, good work could be done was found to be six hours a day. With long hours it was found that the strain was so great that there were inaccuracies, incorrect entries and errors, that required work to be done over again. This seems to me to be a matter of vital interest, and one which the librarians, as a matter of safety, should take up. The history of library work for the past four or five years will bear me out in saying that those who are doing the best work are taking it moderately. There are persons to-day at the head of five or six institutions who are physical wrecks because they have disregarded the strain of their work. I regret to see how many women think little of their health; they have good judgment in taking care of their work, but they do not seem to have that judgment in taking care of themselves. This is one of the things that librarians must learn before they can assume that dignity that should belong to their work and not be carried far beyond their own strength.

CHARLES ORR: I believe that more than six hours' work is too much for the brain worker. Of course, it must be taken into account that after the brain worker ends his work in the library he must do some other brain work; he has not reached the end of the brain work of the day. I think sufficient distinction has not been made between the work of the brain worker and that of the person who does physical labor, such as handing out books.

A MEMBER: Suppose you had to do it all?

The PRESIDENT: I would get an assistant.

MEMBER: I wish you would suggest that to our board.

The PRESIDENT: How many hours do you put in?

MEMBER: About 12 hours a day. Our library opens at nine in the morning and closes at half-past eight in the evening, with no intermission; there are two of us on the force.

Miss MERCER, Mansfield: Our hours are, in the winter, three days of 10 hours a day, and the other three days eight and a half hours a day—from Monday morning until Saturday night.

Dr. WHITE, Cincinnati: May I speak on this question from the standpoint of a trustee? There are two sides to the question—one, the financial side, the other the question of the hours of service to be given. I do not think that there is any board of trustees that would not be perfectly willing to have more help at reduced wages. The employees, on the other hand, want the wages to remain the same with the help increased. The next question, then, is where is the money to come from? I have had considerable experience in providing ways and means of getting money, and if any of you think it is easy to get the legislature to increase the taxation of a county or city, just try it, and you will have reason to change your opinion. Our library requires about eight hours' service, and it seems to me we are pretty well provided with assistants. Some one has said that library work was going to be one of the learned professions, of which I believe there are three—law, medicine, and the ministry. Now, I have observed two things about the learned professions. Their members are divided into two classes: some are about starved to death, and some about worked to death. How many business men are there who go to their business early in the morning and stay late at night? It is not necessary to recount them, every city has thousands. They come in at eight or nine in the morning and stay till six, and work eight hours. I do not think it is eight hours' work that wears out the librarian, or wears out any man, physically speaking. It is too often the loss of sleep, worry, or other things done in addition to their work that does the damage—not the work they give to the business in which they are employed. Then there are the wages to be considered. Our assistants seem to be very well satisfied when they once get in the library; I have not heard of any giving it up on account of the wages, and there are thousands knocking at the door to take their places. Seriously, I am in favor of doing all we can for our librarians and assistants; at the same time we must go according to our funds. We are perfectly willing to reduce the hours, but if we do that we must reduce the wages. I believe that catalogers and those doing hard mental work are entitled to shorter hours, but when it comes to the mere delivery of books, how many hours of the day is the work really hard? During a rush, yes; but in the meantime many of the assistants can take seats quietly in the files and read interesting books.

Mrs. JERMAIN: In the Toledo library the young ladies are on their feet continuously in the busy time of the year from the time they come in until they go out, and they are entirely exhausted when their day's work is done.

Mr. OLNEY: I speak as a trustee, and I am

sure that nearly every board of trustees in the state of Ohio would be glad to know just how librarians and assistants themselves regard their work. The fact is, we look at it from a different standpoint than that of the librarian and those working with him. There are experts who can work two or three hours a day and do more good work than some other person who may work eight, nine, or 10 hours; others are mere figureheads. There are certain experts who should be and are paid large wages, while there are others who work conscientiously and well, but the quality of the work they do is very different. We should be glad, I am sure, as trustees, to learn just what you think would be right, and then we will come as near to doing what you think ought to be done as possible.

Miss AHERN: There has been one gauntlet thrown down that I really cannot pass by. It is a fact that there are a great many people knocking at library doors; so there are everywhere; but 99 per cent. of these people we do not want, and if you are going to give small salaries you will have to take these people, because you cannot get trained people—and the tendency of the whole thing is to lower the average not only of the work but of the people that are engaged in the work, and the public is the final sufferer. Such a discussion as this brings up the advisability of a schedule—if I may use such a term—on the quality of the work in libraries. And I hope that no librarian who has heard what has been said here this afternoon will be driven from personally favoring a higher standard simply because some one else may get her position if she is not silent on what she knows is not exactly right. We want better workers, we want people prepared mentally, morally, and physically; but we cannot have them on low salaries and at long hours.

Mr. BRETT: It is not the help we have but the trained help we need that is the key to the whole situation. One gentleman has spoken of the thousands outside the library knocking at the doors. What does that signify? When they come in they do not know how to do the work. The work of a library has most of the qualities of strictly professional work. The definition of a profession, if I can state it, is that it requires and includes special knowledge in the special line where it is of practical application. And that skill and knowledge should be used for the benefit of others, not alone for one's own benefit. That is the library spirit; and I think that while library work may not have all the essentials of a profession, it has most of them, and it certainly does involve arduous mental labor; and the main reason, it seems to me, why shorter hours should be granted is founded upon the fact that no one can prepare themselves to do this work in the first place, and no one can keep up with the work that is needed to be done, without a very considerable amount of daily study and reading, which should be allowed for outside of library hours. If one does all the work they are capable of doing, puts all oneself in the library, they cannot keep up with study, must fall be-

hind, and must lessen their value to the library every year they remain in the work.

Mr. HOPKINS, Cincinnati: There is a humorous side to this discussion, and I am sure when you understand it you will enjoy it. During my experience as a colleague of Dr. White on the board of trustees of the Cincinnati Public Library I can truthfully say that there was no member of that board who was more just, more fair, more considerate of all the wants and needs of those in the employment of the library than Dr. White himself. I want to say, further, that it was agreed that when this paper on "Library hours" was presented, in order to precipitate a thorough discussion, Dr. White was to take the contrary side of the question.

The PRESIDENT: He certainly succeeded very well in his purpose.

Dr. WHITE: I am certain that Mr. Hopkins' statement will explain my little speech. It was understood that I was to take the opposite side of the question, because in order to have a thorough discussion there must be two sides, and as I was much afraid nobody else would get up and speak on the opposite side I proceeded to do so.

Mr. HENSEL: I wish to endorse what Mr. Brett said, that the hours the librarian and assistants put in at the library are not their only working hours. If they are to fit themselves for improved methods, for improved service to the public, they must study when they are not in the library; so when we say we need shorter hours we do not mean to shirk our library work, but simply to be given an opportunity to do better work by study outside of library hours.

Miss Olive Jones and Mr. Smith having been appointed a committee to draft a resolution on the subject, at a later session of the meeting the following resolution was unanimously adopted:

"The Ohio Library Association recognizes:

"1. That library work in its higher grades is brain work, requiring the service of expert ability; and

"2. That continuous study and preparation are absolutely necessary to render such services efficiently:

"It therefore recommends that the hours of service of those engaged in this class of library work be so shortened as, on the one hand, not to exhaust their mental and physical energies, and so as, on the other hand, to leave them ample time for such outside work as will enable them to maintain a high standard of efficiency."

#### JAPANESE LIBRARIES.

In the 35th annual report of the Minister of Education of Japan\* are given some interesting facts regarding library advantages in the empire. Practically these are centred in the great Imperial Library at Tokyo (formerly the Tokyo Library), for the nine public and 21 private libraries also mentioned are mostly small or imperfectly organized. The Imperial Library was established in April, 1897, when the Tokyo Library was merged into the new institution, and its development has been effec-

\*35th annual report of the Minister of State for Education for the 30th year of Meiji (1897); translated and published by the Department of Education, Tokyo, Japan, May, 32d year of Meiji (1899). 4+214+10 p. maps, diagrams, O.

tively taken up by the government. The new library was created in accordance with a memorial presented by the Imperial Diet, and its removal to a more suitable site, with a more extended organization, is contemplated. Since June, 1897, the library has been opened in the evenings, and the attendance has greatly increased in consequence.

Excluding the Imperial Library, there are in all 346,342 v. contained in the 30 public and private libraries of Japan, and these libraries were visited by 46,243 persons in 1897. There are public libraries in the towns of Chiba, Shezuoka, Miyagi, Aichi, Gifu, Hiroshima, Tokushima, and Kumamoto, the largest being that of Tokushima, which contains 104,307 v. and had 4978 visitors. Among the private libraries those of Tokyo (36,776 v.), Miyagi (26,253 v.), and Kochi (25,591 v.), are the largest.

#### WOMEN LIBRARIANS IN ENGLAND.

THE disturbing question of the employment of women in English libraries was the subject of one of the recent meetings of the English Library Assistants' Association, and the papers and discussions as summarized in the June number of *The Library Assistant* seem to show a more sympathetic attitude than formerly. A paper by Dr. G. E. Wire gives an excellent review of the conditions that obtain in the United States, emphasizing the general employment of women assistants, the equal footing on which librarians and assistants meet in all library organizations, and the excellent results of women's work in the library field. Dr. Wire says: "With no reflection on the men, I may say that women make better assistants than the men. In the charging-desk, in much of the reference work, and pre-eminently in children's and club work, women are best. The American woman librarian has done much to endear the library to the populace, and a great deal of the popularity of the American libraries is due to her faithfulness, conscientiousness, genius, and patience. Even in towns where taxes grind, people are ready and willing to aid the library, because it has been so much and done so much for them and their children. But if, instead of these women there had been half-paid, half-hearted men, with rude boys for assistants, the tale would have been different."

One of the champions of women assistants is W. L. Selby, who states that at Bristol the seven public libraries are all in charge of women, and that the change has resulted in increased orderliness among the borrowers, and has been wholly satisfactory. He gives as an argument for the employment of women, that they are "generally abstainers and non-smokers," while the fact that women assistants are "occasionally leaving to be married" keeps the staff "comparatively young and also energetic and up to date."

A table compiled by B. L. Dyer shows the extent to which women have found employment in libraries in the United Kingdom. 28 rate-supported libraries are listed, ranging from 300

to 18,000 volumes in size, which are in charge of women librarians; of these, 14 have no assistants, and one only has as many as four assistants. In the largest library, that of Doncaster, there are two male assistants. In 37 other libraries (rate-supported) women are employed as assistants, Manchester having 87, Bristol 33, Leeds 18, Portsmouth 12, and Bradford 10, the others ranging from one to six. According to recent library statistics there are in the United Kingdom about 250 rate-supported libraries and 1250 assistants. Of non-rate-supported libraries 11 are listed as having women librarians, these being generally small association libraries; and 12 private or other libraries employing women assistants are recorded.

At the International Congress of Women librarianship was among the topics of discussion, but the editor of *The Library Assistant* considers that the subject received inadequate treatment. He adds: "No meeting of women to discuss librarianship from a practical point of view can have the slightest claim to be representative which does not include one member at least from the Manchester and the Bristol library staffs."

#### THE FICTION COMMITTEE OF THE BOSTON PUBLIC LIBRARY.

*From the 47th (1898) Report of the Library.*

DURING the past three years a committee numbering (at any one time) from 15 to 20 persons (all residents of the city, and thus far all women) has undertaken to read every work of current fiction (in English), under consideration for purchase, and to report to the librarian in writing certain information regarding it. The information requested is in chief: Is the book suitable for child or for adult? is it historical or purely romantic? narrative, or does it deal with some contemporary social problem? If historical, what period of history does it depict? its merits and defects: as to accuracy (if historical), temper (if touching social problems), apparent sincerity (if treating religious problems), morality and style; and an outline of the plot sufficient to render intelligible the information above described.

Every new work of fiction (in English) is read and thus reported upon independently by two persons; if their reports disagree, by a third. The labors of the committee may be appreciated from the fact that during the past year (a normal one) 548 books were read by it and reported upon in writing.

These reports are of the greatest service to the administration of the library, and have been made use of by other institutions or boards having the responsibility of selecting from the mass of current publications but unable to examine each book in detail. And the labors of the committee would have received appreciative mention before this, but that its function is so liable to be misunderstood.

It is *not* — an outside body, without official responsibility — substituted for the administra-

tion. It does not *select* books for the library; it merely furnishes information by which the books may more efficiently be selected by the librarian and trustees. It indicates also an opinion whether, on the whole, the book is worthy. But this opinion does not finally control. It is an element in the decision, but no more. And the final decision, for acceptance or rejection, frequently runs counter to it.

The committee is not a body of experts; it is composed of persons selected at large, sufficiently numerous to represent at any one time different points of view. Its *personnel* changes constantly, in order that the variety of view may be still greater, and that merely methodical and routine judgment may be avoided. The purpose (so far as it concerns the mere opinion desired) being to secure the average instinctive judgment of the general public, the committee is not furnished by the administration with any standards of criticism; indeed, its requests for such standards have regularly been denied.

Of the 600 works of current English fiction received during the year, less than a third (with necessary duplication of copies) could be purchased. That of the 180 purchased last year it may be said that not one was placed on the shelves without having been read and reported upon by at least two persons, indicates a service by the committee sufficiently deserving of gratitude. That to the selection of these 180 titles out of the 548 the committee contributed information of great usefulness, indicates a service of even larger measure.

### "EVALUATION" OF FICTION AT NEW YORK STATE LIBRARY.

*From Director's Report, N. Y. State Library, 1898.*

TELL me a story, Show me a picture, or, What is the news? go back to the childhood of the race as the three most common requests, and we have in the novel, the photograph, and the newspaper, three of the most powerful agencies of modern times. In the selection of suitable fiction for a public library, trustees and librarians find their hardest problem, make their most frequent mistakes, and have most need of help and supervision. We are trying more systematically than ever before to utilize the services of various people interested in examining the steady stream of new novels coming from the press with a view to their use in any of our libraries. After a few years of this systematic work we shall have a volume of results indexed for immediate reference and valuable enough to be of great practical service when printed in a bulletin.

The fiction slip reproduced below is used for the criticism of fiction by those whose judgment is desired. The slips are filed in the list of classified notes on books as a help to the book board in deciding on the value of books for public and school libraries. Through the courtesy of the Boston Public Library we have incorporated in this list the results of the work done by its fiction committee.

(Front)

Fiction			
Author			
Title			
Publisher		Date	
Country	Period		
Historical	Short stories		
Problem or purpose			
<i>Libraries</i>	<i>Age</i>	<i>Character</i>	<i>Form</i>
Public	Kindergarten	Style	Type: broken,
School	Children	English	small
Traveling	Youth (14-21)	Slang,	Paper: poor,
Childrens	Adult	vulgarity	thin
Home		Profanity	Binding
		Trustwor-	Illustration
		thiness	Editing, proof-
		Partizan	reading
		Moral tone	Price
		Objectional	
		tendency	
		Immoral	
		Weak	
New York State Library			[OVER]

(Back)

Indicate opinions by underlining words or using letters a to e as follows:	
a=recommended, very good	d=undesirable, poor
b=allow, good	e=exclude from libraries, bad
c=doubtful	
Read	by
Examined	
Remarks	
	Date

### LIBRARY DEPARTMENT OF NATIONAL EDUCATIONAL ASSOCIATION.

THE meeting of the Library Department of the National Educational Association, held in connection with the annual convention of that association at Los Angeles in July, was notable for the presentation of the extensive report of the Committee on the Relations of Public Libraries to Public Schools, which must rank as one of the most useful of the year's contributions to library literature. This report, making a pamphlet of 80 pages, was the result of the continued work and careful investigation of the committee, of which J. C. Dana, of the Springfield City Library, is chairman, and it touches clearly and practically upon almost every aspect of co-operative work between schools and libraries. Graded lists for supplementary reading and school use are given, there are directions for the establishment of libraries and their administration, analyses of the library work now carried on in special types of schools, and of the school work of various libraries, and words of practical counsel to the teacher and the librarian. The report was presented at the concluding session of the National Council of Education by J. H. Van Sickle, of Denver, vice-president of the council, who read extracts from several of the papers.

Two business sessions of the Library Department were held during the convention, and in

addition one evening was given to a pleasant reception to members of the department, tendered by the directors and librarian of the Los Angeles Public Library. The sessions were held in the council chamber of the city hall, when, in the absence of Miss Myrtille Avery, Miss Elizabeth Skinner, of Denver, assumed the duties of secretary.

At the first session, held on the afternoon of July 13, Alfred Bayliss, State Superintendent of Public Instruction of Springfield, Ill., read a suggestive paper on "The functions of school superintendents in securing libraries and their proper use in public schools." He considered it the duty of the superintendent to see that the use of books was included and encouraged in the school work, and said: "The use of the library in the school is threefold. It clarifies the understanding, contributes to the joy of life, and is the most effective ethical instrument available. Most teachers might better 'bay the moon' than depend upon direct and didactic methods in teaching ethics. To this end there can be no question as to the value of books. We may teach a boy mercy and kindness through 'Black beauty,' or 'The dog of Flanders,' or 'The Nürnberg stove.' We may teach him patriotism through the 'Address at Gettysburg,' or guard him from 'frantic boast or foolish word' by and through the 'Recessional.' Whatever it is possible to do to inculcate the love of liberty, piety, patience, gratitude, reverence, philanthropy, or fortitude, or to subdue evil passions—to 'awe the beast and hold fast to the man,' can best be done—can, perhaps, be done by most of us in no other way at all than through books." There was a discussion upon the general field of library work, including an account of the influence of libraries in Arizona mining camps, and of the reading-rooms established along the Santa Fé route and maintained by the railway company. The report of the Committee on the Relations of Public Libraries and Public Schools was also discussed.

The final session was opened on the afternoon of July 14 with an excellent paper by Miss Mary L. Jones, of the Los Angeles Public Library, on "School reading through the public library," referring especially to the methods developed in Los Angeles. Miss Elizabeth Skinner followed with a paper on "How to acquire a taste for good reading," alluding to the difficulty of reaching the individual child through the crowded schools, and to the value of the library as a medium for doing this; and C. C. Young, of the Lowell High School of San Francisco, treated the "Use of the library" as an indispensable factor in that life education, of which the school can guide only the first steps.

The following resolutions, offered by Mr. Van Sickle, were passed:

*"Resolved,* That the N. E. A. is earnestly requested to have not less than 10,000 copies of the library report published for free distribution, and additional copies for sale.

*"Resolved,* That the officers of the Library Department be appointed a committee to prepare a circular letter for circulation among teachers, with a plan for usefulness in each state."

### American Library Association.

*President:* R. G. Thwaites, State Historical Society, Madison, Wis.

*Secretary:* Henry J. Carr, Public Library, Scranton, Pa.

*Treasurer:* Gardner M. Jones, Public Library, Salem, Mass.

### State Library Commissions.

COLORADO STATE BOARD OF LIBRARY COMMISSIONERS: C. R. Dudley, chairman, Public Library, Denver.

CONNECTICUT F. P. L. COMMITTEE: Caroline M. Hewins, secretary, Public Library, Hartford, Ct.

GEORGIA LIBRARY COMMISSION: Miss Anne Wallace, secretary, Carnegie Library, Atlanta, Ga.

INDIANA STATE LIBRARY COMMISSION: W. E. Henry, secretary, State Library, Indianapolis.

KANSAS STATE LIBRARY COMMISSION: James L. King, secretary, Topeka.

MAINE STATE LIBRARY COMMISSION: George T. Little, chairman, Bowdoin College Library, Brunswick.

MASSACHUSETTS STATE LIBRARY COMMISSION: Miss E. P. Sohler, secretary, Beverly.

NEW HAMPSHIRE STATE LIBRARY COMMISSION: J. H. Whittier, secretary, East Rochester.

NEW YORK: Public Libraries Division, State University, Melvil Dewey, director, Albany.

The University of the State of New York issues Extension bulletin no. 27, July, 1899, Public libraries no. 8, devoted to the report of the Public Libraries Division for the year ending Sept. 30, 1898. The report shows 209 libraries and institutes under university supervision, of which 10 were chartered during the year, and 9 were registered as maintaining a proper standard. The 10 libraries chartered included the transfer of one district library, and the establishment of nine libraries in places where there were no previously existing libraries open to the public; four of the latter "resulted from efforts of women's clubs." One provisional charter, issued in 1893, was made absolute. The usual tabulated statistics show the condition of the 143 chartered libraries in the university, of which 107 have received money from the state, and 78 have been aided by local taxation. "The 143 libraries in the university now contain 473,059 v., an increase of 51,777, or 12% over last year. The circulation of the free lending libraries among them has reached 1,686,607 v., an increase of 238,700, or 16% for the year. This marks the steady and wholesome growth which has been maintained from the beginning. The new libraries of the last year are small. Not one of the 10 had \$1000 with which to claim an absolute charter, but all are the results of earnest and intelligent effort in the small communities. Adding the registered libraries to those in the university or be-

longing to its institutions, there are now 373 free leading libraries under this supervision, and but 35 which have no relation to the university." During the year 104 libraries were visited by the inspector, of which 29 had not been previously reached. Full details are given of the use of the travelling libraries, which has largely increased, 540 libraries having been sent out, with a circulation of 33,461 among 3529 readers. The circulation of pictures and lantern slides is also constantly winning more appreciation.

The usual "statistics of New York libraries" are given, and the showing made is thus summarized: "The number of libraries reporting is 938, an increase of 69 over the previous year, about half of this increase being in the class of public libraries. The libraries supported wholly or in part by local taxation are 523, or 41 more than in 1897. Those receiving state aid in some form are 639, or 64 more than last year. The free lending libraries are 408, a gain of 33. Their record of circulation is remarkable. With an addition for the year of 308,162 volumes, or 21%, their circulation gained 1,535,206, or 31%, an average advance of 4206 per day. The total free circulation in the state was 6,439,999, an average of 17,644 per day; 989 for each 1000 of the population, and 367 for each 100 volumes in these libraries. In three years the free circulation or home use of books has more than doubled, and the use of books in the library buildings has also increased 31%."

OHIO STATE LIBRARY COMMISSION: C. B. Galbreath, secretary, State Library, Columbus.

VERMONT FREE LIBRARY COMMISSION: Miss M. L. Titcomb, secretary, Goodrich Memorial Library, Newport.

WISCONSIN FREE LIBRARY COMMISSION: F. A. Hutchins, secretary, Madison; Miss L. E. Stearns, librarian, Milwaukee.

### State Library Associations.

#### CALIFORNIA LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.

*President:* F. J. Teggart, Mechanics' Institute Library, San Francisco.

*Secretary:* R. E. Cowan, 829 Mission Street, San Francisco.

*Treasurer:* Miss Emily I. Wade, Public Library, San Francisco.

#### COLORADO LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.

*President:* A. E. Whitaker, State University Library, Boulder.

*Secretary:* Herbert E. Richle, City Library, Denver.

*Treasurer:* J. W. Chapman, McClelland Library, Pueblo.

#### CONNECTICUT LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.

*President:* W. J. James, Wesleyan University Library, Middletown.

*Secretary:* Miss J. S. Heydrick, Pequot Library, Southport.

*Treasurer:* Miss Alice T. Cummings, Public Library, Hartford.

#### GEORGIA LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.

*President:* Miss Anne Wallace, Young Men's Library, Atlanta.

*Secretary-Treasurer:* C. W. Hubner, Atlanta.

#### ILLINOIS STATE LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.

*President:* E. S. Willcox, Public Library, Peoria.

*Secretary:* Miss M. E. Ahern, Public Libraries, 215 Madison St., Chicago.

*Treasurer:* Mrs. Josephine Resor, Public Library, Canton.

#### INDIANA LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.

*President:* W. E. Henry, State Library, Indianapolis.

*Secretary:* Miss Belle S. Hanna, Public Library, Greencastle.

*Treasurer:* Miss Jessie Allen, Public Library, Indianapolis.

#### IOWA STATE LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.

*President:* W. H. Johnston, Public Library, Fort Dodge.

*Secretary and Treasurer:* Miss Ella McLoney, Public Library, Des Moines.

#### MAINE LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.

*President:* E. W. Hall, Colby University, Waterville.

*Treasurer:* Prof. G. T. Little, Bowdoin College, Brunswick.

#### MASSACHUSETTS LIBRARY CLUB.

*President:* W. H. Tillinghast, Harvard University Library.

*Secretary:* H. C. Wellman, Public Library, Brookline.

*Treasurer:* Miss Margaret D. McGuffy, Public Library, Boston.

The annual meeting of the Massachusetts Library Club will be held in October, at the Fitchburg Public Library.

#### WESTERN MASSACHUSETTS LIBRARY CLUB.

*President:* H. H. Ballard, Berkshire Athenæum, Pittsfield.

*Secretary:* Miss F. Mabel Winchell, Forbes Library, Northampton.

*Treasurer:* Miss Mary M. Robison, Free Library, Amherst.

#### MICHIGAN LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.

*President:* H. M. Utley, Public Library, Detroit.

*Secretary:* Mrs. A. F. McDonnell, Bay City.

*Treasurer:* Miss Genevieve M. Walton, Normal College Library, Ypsilanti.

#### MINNESOTA LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.

*President:* Dr. W. W. Folwell, State University, Minneapolis.

*Secretary:* Miss Gratia Countryman, Public Library, Minneapolis.

*Treasurer:* Miss Anne Hammond, Public Library, St. Paul.

*NEBRASKA LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.*

*President:* W. E. Jillson, Doane College, Crete.

*Secretary:* Miss Edith Tobitt, Public Library, Omaha.

*Treasurer:* Miss M. A. O'Brien, Public Library, Omaha.

*NEW HAMPSHIRE LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.*

*President:* A. H. Chase, Concord.

*Secretary:* Miss Grace Blanchard, Public Library, Concord.

*Treasurer:* Miss E. A. Pickering, Public Library, Newington.

*NEW JERSEY LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.*

*President:* F. P. Hill, Free Public Library, Newark.

*Secretary:* Miss Clara W. Hunt, Free Public Library, Newark.

*Treasurer:* Miss Cecelia C. Lambert, Public Library, Passaic.

*NEW YORK LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.*

*President:* A. L. Peck, Public Library, Gloversville.

*Secretary:* W. R. Eastman, State Library, Albany.

*Treasurer:* J. N. Wing, Free Circulating Library, 226 W. 42d st., New York City.

*OHIO LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.*

*President:* Charles Orr, Case Library, Cleveland.

*Secretary:* Miss Martha Mercer, Public Library, Mansfield.

*Treasurer:* Miss K. W. Sherwood, Public Library, Cincinnati.

The fifth annual meeting of the Ohio Library Association, which was held at Toledo, with an excursion to Put-in Bay, Aug. 9-11, proved one of the most pleasant and profitable of any yet held, with the largest attendance in the history of the association.

The first session was opened at 9 a.m. on Aug. 9, in the Auditorium building, by President Robinson Locke, of Toledo, who delivered his annual address, welcoming the association to Toledo, and touching upon library progress in Ohio and in general. He said: "In our own state there has been a general reawakening. Many new libraries have been established and old ones strengthened. With the combined efforts of the Ohio Library Association, the Ohio State Library Commission, and the State Federation of Women's Clubs, the gospel of free books to all the people will be carried into every portion of the state. One of the good signs of the times is the more active interest in the work now being shown by the trustees of public libraries. The trustee of to-day, to best serve the people who have imposed the trust upon him, must devote much time and intelligent study to the new factors that have of late entered library work. He must be in accord

with the most progressive ideas of his librarian, and if his study and interest in the work enable him to make practical suggestions to his librarian, he is so much the better fulfilling his duties." Reference was made to the exposition to be held in Toledo in 1902, and it was recommended that a committee be appointed to work toward the installation in the educational building of a model library, thoroughly equipped, to serve as an object lesson and an influence throughout the state.

Charles Orr presented the secretary's report, which was accepted, without reading, for incorporation in the printed proceedings. The treasurer's report, submitted by Miss Sherwood, showed expenses of \$87.27 and a balance of \$33.19.

The report of the committee on library extension, made by Miss Alice Boardman, secretary, was a record of continued activity. During the year a "handbook of information" was issued under the auspices of the state library commission; the collection of statistics relating to Ohio libraries was undertaken, to be later prepared for publication; a co-operative meeting was held in connection with the federation of women's clubs; and further efforts were made to organize the various counties, so as to have a library correspondent not only in each county, but in every town, it being hoped that in another year by this system the committee would be in touch with every town and village in the state. The report included full statistics and reports regarding Ohio libraries—noting gifts, bequests, work of the state travelling libraries, etc.; and recommended that the work of securing statistics be completed, and that the organization of library correspondents be perfected; that all other committees and members co-operate in the collection of such statistics; and that a committee on library training be appointed to plan for an annual library institute, in the hope of raising the general standard of library work, and to co-operate with the A. L. A. committee on qualifications and credentials. The resolutions were adopted.

The report of the committee on co-operation of libraries and schools was read by Martin Hensel; C. B. Galbreath reported on public documents, urging the importance of systematizing and completing collections; and W. H. Brett outlined the series of library lectures to be given in connection with the meeting, which were intended as largely experimental and preliminary, perhaps, if successful, to the adoption of a plan for a library institute. Adjournment was then taken.

The afternoon session was held at the attractive Country Club, where the series of library lectures was opened by Miss Linda Eastman, of Cleveland, who spoke on "The library spirit," and sought to point out the right principles underlying the "great library movement with which we are identifying ourselves." "Co-operation, helpful co-operation, not only with the schools, but with all those forces which make for the uplifting of humanity and the enrichment of life; the dissemination



of literature on or for the mothers' clubs, the women's literary clubs, the social settlements, municipal government and improvement, all of the vital questions of the day, as well as the investigations of science and the history and literature of the present and past—all this comes within the province of the library, all this in addition to every aid and encouragement in any line of individual research." The need of a sincere interest in the work, of quick personal responsiveness and of faithful work, no matter in how trivial-seeming a field, was touched upon with earnestness, and with an appeal for high ideals.

"Bookbuying and trade bibliographies" were discussed by Charles Orr, who noted the best catalogs, manuals, and other trade tools, and gave useful hints on details of selection and ordering. A short discussion followed on the question whether book selection should rest mainly with the librarian or the trustees, the general opinion seeming to be that the librarian, under the authority of the trustees, should have charge of the selection of books. A short recess was then taken, and at its conclusion the subject of "Library hours" was introduced for general discussion in a short paper by Miss Laura Smith, which, with the resultant discussion, is given elsewhere in this issue (*see* p. 524).

In the evening a public meeting was held in the Auditorium, which had been attractively decorated and was well filled. President Locke introduced M. L. Crowell, of the Toledo Public Library board, who delivered an address on "Library work in Ohio compared with other states." He traced the development of library legislation and the growth of libraries, and in conclusion said that Ohio, as compared with other states, could be classed as a good follower, being neither first or last, and standing 10th in order of states.

Mrs. Elroy M. Avery spoke on women's clubs and the influence exerted by them in developing library activities, and expressed her wish for the adoption of several improvements in library methods, *i. e.*, a general system for the exchange of books between all libraries in the state; an increase of library appropriations by the state; the registration of all libraries in the state library, and the distribution among them of all state books; an interchange of catalogs among libraries of the state, and the open-shelf system. Miss M. E. Ahern, of *Public Libraries*, spoke on "The results of association," pointing out what had been accomplished by the A. L. A. and its auxiliary aids; and finally, Mrs. Kate Bromlee Sherwood, president of the Centennial Association, presented "The educational features of the Ohio Centennial and Northwest Territory Exposition," urging that the library association co-operate in the endeavor to perfect and extend the educational side of the exposition.

The session of Thursday morning was opened in the Auditorium and later adjourned to the Public Library. General business was introduced by the report of the nominating committee. It recommended the election of the fol-

lowing: President, Charles Orr, Cleveland; Vice-presidents, E. O. Randell, Columbus, Dr. Thomas White, Cincinnati, Miss Duvall, Delaware; Secretary, Miss Martha Mercer, Mansfield; Treasurer, Miss K. W. Sherwood, Cincinnati; Member executive committee, Robinson Locke, Toledo. The report was accepted and the persons named were elected by a unanimous vote. Amendments to the constitution offered last year, extending the association membership by providing for active members, club members, associate members, active associate members, and library members, were adopted.

Upon reassembling at the Public Library a paper on the "Use of reference books" was read by Mrs. Virginia Odor Rickey, formerly of the Cleveland Public Library, who emphasized the need of thorough knowledge of books by those who must handle them for the public's benefit, and gave useful suggestions for simplifying and aiding reference service. A joint session of librarians and trustees followed, in which discussion of the functions and duties of trustees was participated in by Messrs. Locke, Brett, Parker, Olney, Crowell, Wycoff, and others, while a special section meeting was devoted to the problems met with in small libraries.

At 3.45 the boat was taken for Put-in Bay, where the Hotel Victory was made headquarters, and pleasant hours were passed in enjoying the beauties of the changed scene.

Sessions were resumed on Friday morning at 10 o'clock. The committee on place of next meeting reported in favor of meeting in October, 1900, in Zanesville, which is a city of 25,000 inhabitants, without a public library. The report was adopted. The series of library lectures was continued by Miss Wood, of Cincinnati, with an address on "The charging system," by Miss A. S. Tyler, of Cleveland, on "Classification" and on "Accessioning," and by Miss Esther Crawford, of Dayton, on "Shelf-listing" and on "Cataloging." It was voted that the papers in this series be placed in the hands of the executive committee for publication in pamphlet form and distribution throughout the state. After the consideration of some minor business the meeting was adjourned until October, 1900.

The College Section of the association held a meeting simultaneous with the main session of Friday morning, at which three excellent papers were given—"A brief history of the library of Wittenberg College," by Miss Prince, of that library; "The ethics of the college library," by Miss Linda Duvall, of Ohio Wesleyan University Library; and "Arranging a small college library," by Mrs. Gertrude R. Colburn.

In all its details the meeting proved a success; the sessions were well attended and stimulating, the hospitality extended was delightful, and it is hoped that the results to follow will prove that real good was accomplished. The association now numbers 200 members, and in the words of one of its members is "beginning to be a power for good in the state."

## PENNSYLVANIA LIBRARY CLUB.

*President:* Dr. E. J. Nolan, Academy of Natural Sciences, Philadelphia.

*Secretary:* Miss Mary P. Farr, Philadelphia Normal School.

*Treasurer:* Miss Jean E. Graffen, Free Library of Philadelphia.

## WESTERN PENNSYLVANIA LIBRARY CLUB.

*President:* Miss Helen Sperry, Carnegie Library, Homestead.

*Secretary-Treasurer:* Miss Mary F. Macrum, Carnegie Library, Pittsburgh.

## VERMONT LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.

*President:* Miss S. C. Hagar, Fletcher Free Library, Burlington.

*Secretary:* Miss M. L. Titcomb, Goodrich Memorial Library, Newport.

*Treasurer:* E. F. Holbrook, Proctor.

## WISCONSIN STATE LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.

*President:* Mrs. Charles S. Morris, Berlin.

*Secretary:* Miss Minnie M. Oakley, State Historical Society, Madison.

*Treasurer:* Miss Nellie C. Silverthorn, Public Library, Wausau.

In spite of the fact that the Northern Wisconsin, Fox River Valley, and state library associations had indulged in a meeting since the opening of the year, the officers of the state association planned a summer meeting and outing, which was held in Madison, Aug. 24 and 25. The dates were fixed at this time in order to secure the presence of the instructors and pupils of the Summer Library School, whose eight weeks' session closed on the 25th. The Wisconsin librarians thus had an opportunity to meet the 35 representatives of different states and libraries, who had assembled in Madison to receive technical instruction and training.

The conference was opened at 2 p.m., on the 24th inst., Mrs. C. S. Morris, president, in the chair. I. S. Bradley, librarian of the State Historical Library, and Miss Georgia R. Hough, librarian of the Madison Free Library, gave the visitors a cordial welcome, and extended to them the hospitality of the local libraries.

Mrs. Morris, the president, after acknowledging the greetings extended, expressed the hope that all present would possess a hospitality of mind and soul, a receptivity of the fine potentialities of the hour. She said she stood there in a triune capacity as representative of the Wisconsin Library Association, the Free Library Commission, and the federated clubs of the state. The federation, she said, has undertaken the preparation of small travelling libraries accompanied by study outlines, and collections of photographs illustrative of the course of study. She recommended a closer union between the librarian and the study class, and showed how librarians may

greatly assist club women by keeping in touch with the programs, furnishing references, and suggesting topics for discussion. The library should become the headquarters of the local club, and, wherever possible, club meetings may profitably be held within the rooms of the library building. Thus would the library possess the fine literary atmosphere, the true cultured spirit with its vivifying power, that must accompany such a union of interests, which would vastly aid in establishing the library in its rightful place as a centre of influence in each community. Mrs. Morris advocated the maintenance of a central travelling library equal to all demands, with syllabi to accompany the courses of reading. Some definite result should follow this meeting, she thought, and hoped that all might be imbued with a determination to accomplish something more for Wisconsin than has yet been undertaken.

Although not a librarian, Mrs. Morris showed that she possessed an intelligent and sympathetic comprehension of the library worker's ideals and difficulties.

Miss Gratia Countryman, assistant librarian of the Minneapolis Public Library, read a paper on "Contact with the public," which was replete with interest and a knowledge born of experience, and it is hoped may reach a wider public.

A short discussion followed, after which Miss L. E. Stearns read a paper on "Library literature," by Miss Helen E. Haines, of the LIBRARY JOURNAL, which was an unexpected treat not on the program.

In acceptance of an invitation extended to all present by the local library staffs, everybody, at this juncture, wended their way to the boat landing, where a steamer was waiting to convey the party to Monona Grove, across Lake Monona. Here, on the beautiful grounds surrounding the summer home of Mr. R. G. Thwaites, supper was served. Later, as the twilight deepened, a camp-fire was lighted, around which the company gathered to listen to Mr. Thwaites, president of the American Library Association, as he told briefly of that organization, and then started the story-telling, which, interspersed with songs, made the time pass all too quickly until, "just as the moon rose over the bay," the steamer whistled, and the homeward trip was begun, made longer by a detour round the lake to enjoy the rippling moonbeams. While en route the president called everybody to order long enough to gather into the association, by formal motion and vote, all the members of the library school, Miss Marvin being made an honorary member, and the pupils associate members.

On Friday morning the Wisconsin Free Library Commission was the subject for discussion. Mr. F. A. Hutchins, the secretary, told how it had supplemented the efforts of the state association in fostering new libraries and encouraging growth all over the state, until Wisconsin may well be proud of the showing she makes along this line of educational development.

Miss L. E. Stearns, library organizer, out-

lined in her enthusiastic manner the plans of the commission for future work, and Miss Cornelia Marvin, library instructor, told how she hoped to follow the work of organization, by assisting in the selection of books, cataloging, and getting new libraries started according to the most approved methods.

Miss Emma Gattiker, of the Madison Free Library, told about the list of 100 popular books in the German language she had just compiled for the library commission for use in libraries where a proportion of the population is of German birth. These lists may be procured by applying to the State Library Commission, Madison, and will undoubtedly prove helpful, as they give not only publishers' addresses, but also prices and other information.

In the absence of Prof. J. C. Freeman, who had promised an address on "Shakespeare in the class, the club, and the library," Mr. Hutchins embraced the opportunity to relate the short and pathetic history of the new Richmond library, which after a few months of helpful existence had been destroyed by a cyclone, and left nothing behind to tell of its former life but a few books that happened, fortunately, to be in a Madison bindery at the time. Mr. Hutchins suggested that it would be well for the state association to enter upon some systematic work for the upbuilding of a new library for the stricken city, and urged the librarians present to make their libraries centres where donations of books might be received for this purpose. Much interest was aroused, and several expressed a willingness to help, while Miss Dousman, of the Milwaukee Library, offered to send a box of children's books, to be collected among the Milwaukee children. The association also unanimously voted to pay the binder's bill out of the available funds, besides raising \$22 for other needs.

The question, "Should women be members of library boards?" was then discussed by Mrs. Gorst, president of the Woman's Club of Baraboo, Miss O'Brien, of Omaha, R. G. Thwaites, and others. Mr. Thwaites said he had no objection to women being on library boards, but would give some reasons why men objected to their presence. The consensus of opinion favored the women, and Mrs. Morris closed the discussion with a final argument for the popular side.

At the February meeting resolutions were adopted committing the association to a plan of co-operation with the state superintendent of public instruction, to secure, if possible, the better binding of books purchased for the libraries of the state. In accordance with these resolutions letters were sent to the different librarians in the state, asking them to prepare lists of the more poorly bound popular books of the day, together with the names of the publishers, and forward to Miss Ellen D. Biscoe, librarian of the Eau Claire Public Library, who would compile statistics on the subject and present them at the next meeting. The program of the afternoon was opened by the reading of Miss Biscoe's report, which presented the subject so clearly that a motion was made by Miss

Stearns to ask the LIBRARY JOURNAL to publish it in full.\*

The next subject on the program was "Collecting sets of periodicals," which was to have been presented by Mr. R. B. Griggs, of Baraboo, but as Mr. Griggs was unable to appear on account of illness, a general discussion of the subject followed. Mr. Hutchins offered the services of the commission to any library that would send him lists of missing volumes, or of whole sets wanted.

Miss Florence E. Baker, of the State Historical Library, enlivened the audience by telling several amusing stories of library happenings, which every one enjoyed. Miss Baker said it was unpardonable to make fun of ignorance, but really funny experiences came into the life of every librarian that she could tell with a clear conscience for the edification of her friends.

One of the best papers of the convention was read by Miss Mary E. Dousman, head of the children's department of the Milwaukee Public Library, on "Pictures and how to use them." Miss Dousman has been very successful in interesting children by means of pictures, and told in her paper some of her methods.

Miss Mary E. Tanner, art director of the library commission, discussed Miss Dousman's paper, and further illustrated the subject by a large exhibit of pictures she had mounted and framed for the travelling pictures collection to be sent out by the commission. She told, in an interesting way, of what had been done with pictures, of the influence they had upon lonely lives, and ended by giving practical suggestions on the kinds of cardboard, mats and frames to be used, together with the prices of same. The commission has recently issued a booklet upon this subject, compiled by Miss Tanner, which may be had upon application.

After Miss Tanner concluded, Miss Marvin talked of the work she had done with pictures in the Oak Park Library, and invited the audience to adjourn to the next room, where a large collection of pictures was on exhibition.

In the evening another excursion on the water was enjoyed, this time on Lake Mendota, after which refreshments were served. A vote of thanks was given to Mrs. Charles Kendall Adams, wife of the president of the state university, through whose kindness and hospitality the evening's pleasure was made possible.

On Saturday morning the time was spent in driving about the city, indulging in trolley rides, visiting libraries and university buildings. Nearly all departed for their homes on the afternoon trains, after having pronounced the summer meeting and outing of the Wisconsin Library Association a success.

MINNIE M. OAKLEY, *Secretary*.

NORTH WISCONSIN TRAVELLING LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.

*President:* Mrs. E. E. Vaughn, Ashland.

*Secretary and Treasurer:* Miss Janet Green, Vaughn Library, Ashland.

\* This paper will appear in an early issue of the JOURNAL.

## Library Clubs.

### BAY PATH LIBRARY CLUB.

*President:* Miss Helen S. Carter, Leicester, Mass.

*Secretary:* C. H. Clark, West Brookfield, Mass.

*Treasurer:* Miss Nellie A. Cutter, Spencer, Mass.

### LIBRARY CLUB OF BUFFALO.

*President:* H. L. Elmendorf, Public Library.

*Secretary-Treasurer:* Miss Elizabeth D. Renninger, Catholic Institute.

### CHICAGO LIBRARY CLUB.

*President:* C. B. Roden, Public Library, Chicago.

*Secretary:* Miss Irene Warren, Chicago Normal School.

*Treasurer:* Miss M. E. Ahern, Public Libraries, 215 Madison st., Chicago.

### NEW YORK LIBRARY CLUB.

*President:* Dr. J. S. Billings, N. Y. Public Library.

*Secretary:* Miss Pauline Leipziger, Aguilar Library.

*Treasurer:* Miss Harriet Husted, Y. W. C. A. Library.

### LIBRARY ASSOCIATION OF WASHINGTON CITY.

*President:* Dr. H. Carrington Bolton, Cosmos Club.

*Secretary:* W. L. Boyden, Librarian Supreme Council 33° A. A. Order of Scottish Rite.

*Treasurer:* T. L. Cole, Statute Law Book Co.  
*Meetings:* Second Wednesday evening of each month.

## Library Schools and Training Classes.

### NEW YORK STATE LIBRARY SCHOOL.

CALENDAR FOR 14TH SCHOOL YEAR, 1899-1900.

School opens Wednesday a.m., October 4.

Election day, holiday, Tuesday, November 7.

Thanksgiving recess begins Wednesday noon, November 29.

Thanksgiving recess ends Monday noon, December 4.

Christmas recess begins Friday a.m., December 22.

Christmas recess ends Tuesday p.m., January 2, 1900.

Lincoln's birthday, holiday, Monday, February 12.

Washington's birthday, holiday, Thursday, February 23.

Course examinations begin Wednesday a.m., March 28.

Course examinations end Friday p.m., March 30.

Visit to Boston and other New England libraries begins Tuesday a.m., April 3.

Visit to Boston and other New England libraries ends Friday p.m., April 13.

Lectures begin Tuesday a.m., April 17.

Memorial day, holiday, Wednesday, May 30.

Entrance examinations begin Tuesday a.m., June 12.

Entrance examinations end Friday p.m., June 15.

Course examinations begin Tuesday a.m., June 19.

Course examinations end Friday p.m., June 22.

School closes Friday p.m., June 22.

If the conference of the American Library Association occurs during the school year, lectures will be suspended during the conference week, in order that as many as possible both of faculty and students may attend the sessions.

The dates of the summer course will be announced early in the school year.

SALOME CUTLER FAIRCHILD.

## Reviews.

HASSE, Adelaide R., *comp.* Reports of explorations printed in the documents of the United States government [a contribution toward a bibliography.] Office Superintendent of Documents, Government Printing Office, Washington, 1899. 90 p. O.

From an early stage of the national existence the United States government has kept its military and naval officers employed in time of peace in exploring unknown territory and unknown natural conditions, and geography, geology, zoology, ethnology, astronomy, meteorology, hydrography, in short nearly the whole round of sciences, have profited enormously by these explorations. During the present season United States official expeditions are up the Amazon, in the South Seas, in Newfoundland, in Alaska, in the bad lands of Texas, and in many other parts of the world. Miss Hasse's little book is probably the first attempt to make a comprehensive collection of references to the reports of these government explorations. Probably many readers will be surprised to see 90 pages filled with the mere titles of these reports, but not even Miss Hasse's industry and intimate acquaintance with the tangled maze of the public documents have sufficed to make a complete collection of such titles. While recognizing fully the great amount of intelligent labor bestowed upon this "contribution toward a bibliography," a service will perhaps be done to the author and to her public by pointing out as briefly as may be a few of the more important omissions and a few respects in which the work has not been so carefully done as its value seems to demand.

The bibliography is arranged as a dictionary catalog of authors and subjects, which is no doubt the best form that could be chosen for such work. There is, however, a title entry—just one—and here the rule of alphabetizing titles under the first word not an article works

unfortunately, for it brings the oldest and presumably one of the most important entries, "An account of Louisiana, 1803," in the A's, under the word "Account," and as it is not repeated under the subject-heading "Louisiana" it is virtually lost. In looking over the first part of the alphabet numerous references are found for which entries are missing, and *vice versa*. Under "Africa" there is a reference to Congo, but Congo does not appear in the alphabet. There is no reference to Taunt, though his Congo journey appears under his name and not under Africa. Under Africa and under Liberia appears a report credited to M. C. Perry, but it does not appear under his name in the general alphabet, where the only report credited to him is that of the Japan expedition, though under "Liberia" there is a reference to him. There is no reference from Perry to Africa or Liberia. Under Lynch, Lieut. W. F., is the reference "*see also* African squadron." There is, however, no such heading, nor is there anything by Lieut. Lynch under Africa or Liberia, which appear to be the only African headings. Under "Bering Strait" there is a reference to the barren heading "Corwin," under which there is no entry, only a reference to two authors. The identity of Darien and Panama is recognized by a reference from Panama to Darien, but there is no reference from Darien to Panama. Under the former heading is Admiral Davis's second report, consisting of translations only. His first and more important report does not appear. It was issued in a Congressional edition, 1866, 28 pages and 13 maps, and in a Department edition, 1867, 37 pages and 14 maps; it has a 5-page bibliography.

Under the heading "King, Thomas Butler," is entered a report relative to California and New Mexico, 1850, as Senate ex. doc. 18, 31st Cong., 1st sess. This is a committee report, not an ex. doc., and was not made by Mr. King; King's report is House ex. doc. 59 of the same session. In the giving of contents, the entry of series, etc., there is considerable confusion. Thus the contents of Captain Sitgreaves's report of the Zuni and Colorado expedition are appended to his report of the survey of the boundaries of the Creek country. Arnold Hague's monograph on the geology of the Eureka district is attributed to Rev. R. R. Gurley, and 13 joint authors are missing from the general alphabet. Numerous discrepancies are found in the notation of documents, and there is more confusion in the treatment of series, editions, imprint data, etc., than is consistent with careful bibliographical work.

Setting aside further analysis of what is included in the bibliography, mention should be made of the somewhat numerous omissions which will be noted by those familiar with the material under treatment. While it is frankly stated that the work is a "contribution to a bibliography," the inclusion of many publications dealing only remotely with the direct subject of exploration makes it fair to question the absence of many titles that ought logically to have been included. It is, for instance, surprising to find no mention of the northeastern

or the northwestern boundary, both of which were explored time after time during long periods of years by government commissions; while other important omissions include such publications as Beardalee's Alaska report, 1882; Blair's survey of mouth of Columbia river, 1846; Cram's topographical memoir on Oregon and Washington, 1859; Gray's reports on Mexican boundary, 1855; Howison's Oregon report, 1848; McCall's report on New Mexico, 1851; Menocal's Nicaragua reports and many other Isthmian reports; Mullan's military road, Walla-Walla to Ft. Benton, 1863; Northern boundary commission, 1838; Simpson's exploration of Great Salt Lake desert, 1858; Tatnall's survey of Dry Tortugas, 1830; Totten's survey of Nantucket, 1828; Wilkes's survey of mouth of Columbia river, 1846.

Enough has been said to show that Miss Hasse has not done herself justice in her present work. It is to be hoped that, taking the "contribution" as a basis, she may build upon it with more care, tracing all the varied forms in which each publication has appeared, giving increased care to revision and proof-reading, and thus producing a comprehensive and accurate bibliography. Certainly no one is more competent thus to extract the kernel from the dry document husk, and as a pioneer in a most perplexing and difficult bibliographic field her work demands appreciation, even though its details in the present instance must call forth criticism.

F. A. C.

MASSACHUSETTS FREE PUBLIC LIBRARY COMMISSION. Ninth report, 1899. Bost., Wright & Potter Ptg. Co., 1899. 18+466 p. O.

This is a portly octavo volume of nearly 500 pages and 148 illustrations of libraries, well edited and well gotten up in every way—in paper, print, and binding. It is another example of the fact that what Massachusetts does she does well. Now let us go back and examine the first report of the commission and make a few comparisons. The first report, for 1891, contained 290 pages and 66 illustrations of libraries. Then, comparing the 1891 report with the 1899 report, the figures stand thus, using the numbers of the tables, which are similar in both reports:

1. Towns having libraries owned by town and entirely free, 175 against 269.
2. Towns having free libraries with some part in the management, 28 against 35.
3. Towns where money is appropriated but no part is had in the management, 22 against 26.
4. Towns in which are free libraries with no connection with the town, 21 against 14.
6. Towns having no free library, 103 against 7.

These tables are really an epitome of the more tangible work of the commission which was created to extend state aid to towns having no free library. The first tables show how well they have done this, making an increase of 94 fully free libraries in nine years. In this number of cases they have changed from the heading "There is no free library in ——" in the 1891

report, to page after page of most interesting reading. These accounts show how the small libraries have been started by the money aid from the state, and increased by further gifts from the town, townspeople, and others, not only of money but of books. It is also shown that the commission have reduced the number of towns having no library from 103 to seven, a difference of 96. This, however, is two more than the number having free libraries, so there are two more towns evidently rejoicing in library advantages of some kind. Not to carry our bookkeeping statistics further, it may be noted that some libraries have changed from one class to another, some have been consolidated, and so the balance remains the same. The seven towns with no free library are all, with one exception, losing rather than gaining in inhabitants.

These are the more tangible results of the commission's work. The law creating the commission makes it their first duty to give advice in selection, buying, and cataloging of books, and any other matters pertaining to the administration of the library. It is these other matters which largely concern librarians. And so, in turning over the pages of this ninth report, we come upon certain things which make for progress in library work. We read of libraries being rearranged, being recataloged and classified, of longer hours of opening. The old printed catalog on which the library spent much of its substance is being superseded by card catalogs and bulletins and finding lists. Some libraries are using the two-book system. There is a hint of open shelves, and in a few instances of children's rooms. Full report is made of the school work, in which this state has long been prominent. We who read between the lines can see a lifting up and a broadening out of the sphere of the library.

In their last report the commissioners have a roll of honor of givers of library buildings numbering 120, and also a list of gifts of the past year, which include not only buildings, books, and pictures, but also book and management funds. This latter item is encouraging. Many of these libraries have buildings. We all know how a building appeals to a benefactor. We are a brick and mortar nation. But these libraries, especially those of smaller towns, need funds for carrying on their work. It is pitiful to see these towns which are gradually being drawn into the cities, while at the same time, by reason of modern conditions, their expenses are mounting up in inverse ratio almost to the taxable property. So we are especially glad when their book funds are increased, and when occasionally one is noted that has a fund for the librarian's salary.

The commission make favorable mention of the work of the Woman's Educational Association of Boston, which has 25 travelling libraries, aggregating 718 volumes, and also of the work of the Library Art Club, which circulates pictures. They touch incidentally on the visiting of small libraries by members of the Woman's Educational Association and by their own

commission, and close by an appeal for voluntary aid and work with the libraries.

The commissioners should be supplied with funds to do this work themselves, and the state should also send out travelling libraries, as is done in New York, Ohio, Michigan, and Iowa. On the whole the commission is to be congratulated on the nine years of their work, and we hope it is only a preparation for work on a wider scale, such as the Wisconsin Free Library Commission does in arousing and stimulating interest, and also as is done in the states above mentioned by means of travelling libraries.

DR. G. E. WIRE.

ROYAL LIBRARY OF THE HAGUE. De Oranje Nassau-Boekerij en de Oranje-Penningen in de Koninklijke Bibliotheek en in het Koninklijk Penning-Kabinet te 's Gravenhage: Domui Nassaviae-Arausiae Sacrum, 1898. 's Gravenhage, 1898.

The "Orange-Nassau Library and the Orange medals in the Royal Library and in the cabinet of coins and medals at the Hague, dedicated to the House of Orange-Nassau," is, as its title indicates, a memorial volume in honor of the princes of that house, from whose private collections has grown the present Royal Library, variously estimated at from 200,000 to 400,000 volumes. Notwithstanding a partial dispersion in 1749 and threatened spoliation during the time of Napoleon I., the library is—in "remarkable" books—one of the richest in Europe. Among the rarities the volumes transmitted from the private libraries of the princes occupy a distinguished place. "The princes of Orange had other things to do than to study books, but whenever we open Huyghens' manuscript catalogue of 1686 we seem to catch a breath of the heroic age in which our hero race moved," says Director Byvanck in the introduction.

The books, indeed, pertain largely to history and military science, though good editions of the classics are by no means rare. The Elzevir presses are well represented, and books with plates from Feierabend, the De Brys, and others are frequent. A copy of the "Grands voyages," first Latin edition, is found in the collection of "Prins Maurits," 1608. The catalog, in keeping with its purpose, is handsomely gotten up and richly illustrated with phototypes of early portraits, autograph facsimiles of great historical interest, and reproductions of fine bindings. Several miniatures and coats-of-arms are reproduced with surprising fidelity and effect by "aquareltypie."

The title entries are full, in the manner of exhibition catalogs, and are accompanied by historical notes, though the notices of manuscripts are too brief to be of use to students. The entries are arranged in groups, chronologically, each group representing the books and manuscripts remaining to-day from the particular collection of one of the Orange-Nassau princes, beginning with that of Johan IV., Count of Nassau 1470-75, and his wife Maria van Loon 1424-1502. Many of the books bear legends

expressly stating that they belonged jointly to husband and wife, sometimes accompanied by the arms of both, a fashion which became uncommon after the 17th century.

The catalog of coins and medals forms the second part of the volume. None of the many quaint and beautiful medals reproduced in heliotype commemorate events occurring in the American possessions of Holland.

The preface indicates that new finds are discovered from time to time in the Royal Library, and bibliophiles, to whom the catalog chiefly appeals, may look forward to a reissue with additions.

C: M.

## Library Economy and History.

### GENERAL.

THE NEW ENGLAND EDUCATION LEAGUE, which is concerned with obtaining the admission of library books to the mails at second-class postage or cost rates, has secured the co-operation of a committee arranged as follows: New England Education League; A. H. Chase, State Library, Concord, N. H.; C. K. Bolton, Boston Athenæum; Rev. G. W. Jackson, General Theological Library, Boston; James L. Whitney, Boston Public Library; Miss Katharine P. Loring, Anna Ticknor Library, Boston; W. C. Lane, Harvard University; J. Le R. Harrison, Providence Athenæum; W. T. Peoples, Mercantile Library, New York; Miss Olive Jones, University of Ohio, Columbus; F. M. Crunden, St. Louis Public Library; Horace Kephart, Mercantile Library, St. Louis; Miss E. M. McLoney, Des Moines Public Library; J. F. Davies, Butte Public Library; J. C. Rowell, University of California; Miss Anne Wallace, Carnegie Library, Atlanta; William Beer, Fisk Free Library, New Orleans. It is intended to add other names, representing every state. Those interested or desiring to co-operate are requested to communicate with W. Scott, secretary, 10 Hollis street, Cambridge, Mass.

PENNSYLVANIA LIBRARY CLUB. Occasional papers, nos. 7-9, April, May, July, 1899. 3 nos. O.

Papers read at the tri-state meeting at Atlantic City, March 17, 18, 1899, as follows: 7, New lamps for old, by Helen E. Haines; 8, Children's rooms in free libraries, by John Ashurst, 3d; 9, Department for the blind in free libraries, by Edward Ellis Allen.

STEVENSON, W. M. Carnegie and his libraries; republished from *Presbyterian Banner* of August 10, 1899. 8 p. ll. F.

A short biographical sketch of Andrew Carnegie, followed by a descriptive summary of the libraries established by him or through his aid. These are listed as follows: Braddock, Pa., 1889, \$300,000; Allegheny, Pa., 1891, \$325,000; Pittsburgh, Pa., 1895, \$3,860,000; Homestead, Pa., 1898, amount not stated; Fairfield, Ia., 1893, \$40,000; Johnstown, Pa., 1889, \$60,000; Carnegie, Pa., amount not stated; Atlanta, Ga., \$300,000; Washington, D. C., \$300-

000; Connellsville, Uniontown, McKeesport, Duquesne, and Oakmont, all in Pennsylvania, each public libraries; Birmingham (Eng.) University, \$250,000; East Liverpool and Steubenville, O., each \$50,000. The list does not claim completeness, and is not a full record of Mr. Carnegie's benefactions, but it is none the less a remarkable showing. The gifts to Scotch libraries—Edinburgh, Ayr, Inverness, Wick, Dunfermline—are also noted.

### LOCAL.

*Bakersfield, Cal.* On Aug. 18 a contract was let for the erection of the Beale Memorial Library. The building will be of the mission style, 42 x 80 feet, the walls will be of brick, plastered in imitation of adobe, the roof of genuine Spanish tiles. The contract price is \$7270. The library is being erected by Truxton Beale as a monument to the memory of his father, General E. F. Beale, who left a large estate in the county, and it will be the first memorial library building to be erected by California donors since the Smiley memorial was built in Redlands over 15 months ago.

*Baltimore, Md.* Enoch Pratt F. L. Through the generosity of Mr. Robert Poole, of Baltimore, a seventh branch is to be added to the Pratt library system. This will be located in the suburbs of Woodberry, immediately adjoining the Hampden Presbyterian Church. The building and site will be entirely the gift of Mr. Poole. He has for many years been interested in providing good reading for the people of the neighborhood, and nearly 15 years ago joined in establishing the Woodberry Free Reading-Rooms and Circulating Library, which occupied a frame building a few feet south of the site of the new library. It collected about 2500 volumes, and was of considerable use to the community. This library has now voted to give its books to the Enoch Pratt Free Library and to surrender its charter. This step places all the free circulating libraries in the limits of Baltimore as parts of the Pratt library system.

Woodberry and Hampden were two suburbs of the city annexed in 1888. They have a population of from 15,000 to 20,000, and are now built up substantially as one. A large proportion of the inhabitants are employed in the great cotton duck mills of the Mt. Vernon and other companies, and in the machine shops of the Poole company. This seventh branch library is the second to be built beyond the old city limits, the sixth being the first.

*Belfast (Me.) P. L.* An interesting meeting of librarians was held in the library on Aug. 22. The guests present included, in addition to representatives of the libraries of neighboring towns, Prof. Van Name, of Yale University Library; Prof. R. C. Davis, of the library of the University of Michigan; and Willard Austen, reference librarian of Cornell. A program of short papers and addresses was carried through, and there was general and interested discussion. A pleasant luncheon was served at the library, and the meeting was generally enjoyed.

*Boston (Mass.) P. L.* (47th rpt. — year ending Jan. 31, '99.) The literature of library administration owes much to the Boston Public Library, and this latest annual report increases that debt, and illustrates again how full of practical interest and value the record of a great library's work can be made. As usual, the report is so extended and so important that an adequate summary within prescribed limits can hardly be given, and we can but repeat our annual recommendation to read, mark, and inwardly digest the report in full. The supplements to the reports of trustees and librarian contain this year two especially valuable features — Mr. Whitney's "Considerations as to a printed catalog," presented at the Atlanta Conference (*see* L. J., July, p. C8), and Mr. Ford's pregnant report upon the proposed scope and the function of the Statistical Department, which deserves special attention. There are also interesting reports from the chiefs of the Fine Arts and Children's departments, and from the supervisor of branches; the usual report of the examining committee, and the usual miscellaneous tabulations of statistics, force, gifts, etc.

The statistics of the year may be summarized as follows: Added 25,470, of which 7143 were gifts; total 716,050, of which 550,822 are in the central library. Issued, home use 1,245,842, of which 822,998 were issued through the 10 branches, 18 stations, 22 engine-houses, and various schools, institutions, and other places of deposit. New registration 7032; total cards in force 72,005, a percentage of 14.1% to the total population of the city. "The classification of the cardholders shows a fairly even division by sex. This is usual in the United States, but not so abroad. At Birmingham in 1895-96 the number of cards issued to borrowers was in proportion of 32 males to 12 females; in 1896-97 as 28 to 12." Receipts \$295,010.24; expenses \$264,580.04. Owing to outstanding obligations the apparent balance of \$30,430.20 is reduced to \$21,835.40, which is composed of funds restricted to certain purchases, or is covered by obligations. The year's expenditures for books and periodicals was \$34,935.10.

The need of an increased income is strongly presented. During the year past a deficit was avoided only "by reducing the purchase and rebinding of books below a proper and economical level, and by omitting purchases of fuel, stock, and supplies usually made toward the end of the year." Mr. Putnam says: "With each year of its development the library requires a larger sum for its maintenance. The increase in the aggregate only keeps pace with the growth of population of the city, and with the increase in the volume of work which the department is called upon to do. In these respects the public library is on a different basis from the public schools. It also is not a single isolated institution within rigid limits, but is a *system* attempting to respond to the needs of a city fast growing in population and in needs. It also, by its own very growth, creates a new demand, and the needs to which it responds not merely grow in volume but develop continually

in character. It cannot remain stationary; if it does not advance and expand it must degenerate." It is pointed out that the present appropriation covers only general maintenance expenses and the purchase of more popular books. "The reference departments of the library—the departments that are to make it a great reference library for scholars—can be built up only by private gift. The sum of \$9000 per annum is painfully insufficient. At most it enables the library to keep up with essential current publications. But when, from time to time, important special collections are thrown upon the market to be competed for, the library is helpless. Its competitors have great emergency funds which they can apply at will to just such purposes. It has none. Each year it practically exhausts its income in ordinary expenditure. In consequence it has constantly the mortification of abstaining wholly from competition, or, if it venture a bid upon a few items peculiarly within its province, of being outbid by other institutions. There is a general impression among the citizens of Boston that the general and even development of the library is amply assured by endowment and appropriation. This is an error which ought by every means to be corrected. On its popular side the library is developing normally. The scholarly side is *not* developing in proper proportion. On this side the library is relatively losing rank. It will not, cannot, regain this rank until the citizens of Boston come to its aid with further endowment."

Of special importance during the year was the completion of the architectural changes that have added much to efficiency and convenience; these, which are described in some detail, were noted in L. J., Jan., '99, p. 20. The catalog and printing departments and the bindery have accomplished a great amount of work. In the first-named 47,615 volumes, or parts of volumes, were cataloged, 120,903 cards were placed in various catalogs, and material was prepared for the various regular and special lists and publications. The revised edition of the list of historical fiction is well advanced. Among the branches no notable additions or changes in system have been made. Here "the most significant of the undertakings of the year has been the reclassification of the books upon a single system, with relative (instead of fixed) location and identical notation; and the issue of a finding list of recent accessions classified, located, and numbered on this system, so that any copy of the list is equally a catalog of these titles at any one of the 10 branches. The work of reclassification is but begun. Hand in hand with it goes the work of weeding out the old or unserviceable books and of supplying fresh ones. Assume the branches to be completely reorganized in this way—their collections reduced to lowest terms and then rebuilt to a common standard, classified alike and cataloged in common, and the basis will have been laid for a future development which may be simple, uniform, and economical."

Special mention is made of the voluntary aid given by the special committee on current fic-



tion, whose reports on new books are used as a basis of selection (*see* p. 528). The examining committee, while recommending various minor improvements in service, finds little to criticise and much to commend.

*Bridgeport (Ct.) P. L.* (18th rpt. — year ending June 1, '99.) Added 2324; total 33,125. Issued, home use 136,998 (fict. and juv. 65%); ref. use 15,461. New registration 1394; total registration 12,641.

During the year seven art exhibitions were held, and nine free lectures were given to adults and five to children.

*Brooklyn (N. Y.) P. L.* Attorney-General Davis has informed the State Civil Service Commission that the employes of the library are not subject to the provisions of the state civil service law. He states that it "seems to be entirely clear that these employes are not in the 'state service,' as that term is defined by subdivision 4 of section 2 of the civil service law, and hence cannot be subject to the rules of the State Civil Service Commission."

The library requisition to be submitted for 1900 was outlined at the August board meeting. It will involve the expenditure of \$150,000, half to be devoted to book purchases and the balance to the establishment of branches. It is planned to maintain 10 new branches, as follows: Saratoga, at Saratoga avenue and Halsey street; Carroll Park, at Carroll and Court streets; Stuyvesant, at Stuyvesant avenue and Broadway; Bushwick, at Graham and Montrose avenues; City Park, at Navy street and Park avenue; Prospect, at Sixth avenue and Third street; Fulton, at Hanson place and Fulton street; Greenpoint, in Greenpoint avenue, near Oakland street; Flatbush, in Caton avenue, near Flatbush avenue; and Bay Ridge, at 73d street and Second avenue. The two latter are at present independent libraries—The Flatbush Public Library and the Bay Ridge Public Library— which it is proposed to transfer to the control of the Public Library.

*Cleveland (O.) P. L.* At the August meeting of the board the establishment of a library training school was reported upon by the special committee appointed to consider the subject. The committee recommended that a school be established, provided a fund for its support could be obtained. It was suggested that private generosity might be induced to provide an endowment. It was thought that the school should be established in the East End, and that it should at the same time serve as a branch library. The estimated cost was given as \$50,000, with an annual cost of maintenance of \$5000. The report was referred to the building committee.

*Concord (N. H.) P. L.* "Old home week," whose successful celebration recently in New Hampshire may lead to its adoption in other states, was noticed at the Concord Public Library by a collection of objects of local interest. Pictures of the former librarians, a shelf of books that were favorites years ago, an old map of the city, a row of books by Con-

cord authors, a list of the high-school graduates, the two reference books, "New Hampshire men" and "New Hampshire women," a fashion plate of the old styles, and a plentiful supply of "Old home week" stationery, made an attractive corner, where the invitation was freely extended to sit down and write to some one who couldn't come. The librarian herself received visitors arrayed in the costume of 60 years ago.

*Council Bluffs (Ia.) F. P. L.* (17th rpt.— year ending Dec. 31, '98.) Added 306; total 21,562. Issued, home use 79,379 (fict. 46,361). New registration 576; total registration 8009.

*Detroit (Mich.) P. L.* A new plan of management for the library has been formulated by the commissioners in connection with the librarian, and a printed outline has been issued for the further consideration of the board. It provides for a librarian and an assistant, as at present, and creates six divisions of the work under the immediate supervision of the librarian. First is the cataloging department, with a chief and three assistants; then the reference department, with a chief and two assistants; the circulating department is to have a superintendent of circulation and as many deputies as are necessary. The branch library department, which includes the school libraries, the park library, and the special delivery department, will have a chief and as many assistants as are necessary. The juvenile department will have a chief and two assistants, and the periodical department, under whose supervision will be the reading-room, will have a chief and three or more assistants.

The chiefs and superintendents will be under the immediate authority of the librarian, and will be held individually responsible for their departments. The clerks will be graded, and each will receive the salary attached to the grade. Promotions will be on the recommendation of the librarian, and, with the exception of pages, positions will be given only to those who take the competitive examination.

The library has established a system of messenger service in response to orders by mail or telephone. "Library cardholders have now the privilege of ordering books by mail or telephone, and having them delivered at the slight cost of 10 cents. A private mailing card can be procured at the library, which may be filled out with the titles of several books and mailed, or filled at the library. When any one of the books named comes in, it will be sent at once to the applicant by a messenger. Only one book will be sent at a time, and a second book will not be sent until the first has been returned. Books sent out in this manner are subject to the general regulations respecting time limit, renewal, and fine for detention over time. Books will be sent only to cardholders who are not in arrears for fines. When the messenger delivers a book, he will, if requested, return another to the library without extra charge."

*Erie (Pa.) P. L.* (Rpt., 1897-98 and 1898-99.) On Feb. 16, 1899, when the library was dedi-

cated and opened to the public it contained 9292 v.; since then 2326 v. have been accessioned, making a total of 11,618. As the report is made to May 31, 1899, the figures show only three months' work. The total circulation was 41,954 (33,713 fict.), of which 14,767 were issued from the children's department. No. card-holders 4990.

The report contains an historical sketch of the library, and a full account of the dedication exercises.

*Evanston (Ill.) P. L.* Charles F. Gray, of Evanston, has offered to give \$10,000 toward a new library building on condition that a total sum of \$100,000 be raised. It is understood that the full amount will be secured.

*Fort Worth, Tex. Carnegie P. L.* A meeting of the library trustees was held on Aug. 1, for the settlement of plans for the new library assured by Mr. Carnegie's recent gift of \$50,000. A contract has been made between the library association and the city, by which the former transfers to city ownership its library, which, however, is to be administered by the association, on condition that the city appropriate \$4000 annually for its maintenance. The site committee reported that the title to Hyde Park, upon which the library is to be erected, was satisfactory. Resolutions of gratitude to Mr. Carnegie were passed, and formal acceptance of his gift was made. It was also voted that the new library should be formally designated the Carnegie Public Library of Fort Worth. The report on the recent gift concert showed net returns of \$6439.55, making with the sum previously raised a total of \$10,448.88 cash in hand.

*Fresno (Cal.) P. L.* Added 710; total 5418. Issued, home use 34,636 (fict. and juv. fict. 27,382). New registration 947.

The increase of the library levy from four to five cents is strongly urged.

*Hampton (Va.) Normal and Agricultural Institute L.* (Rpt.—in *Southern Workman*, July, p. 277.) "Since Oct. 1, 1898, 647 borrowers have registered and drawn books from the library. In the seven months 4983 books have been issued. The revision of the card catalog has made gratifying progress. The circulation of the travelling libraries this year has been much interfered with by the prevalence of smallpox in this and neighboring counties; seven of them have been in use, however. The picture exhibitions have been continued, 15 having been held, and have proved popular. The great need of the library at present is that the alterations should be carried into effect as speedily as possible."

*Holyoke (Mass.) P. L. A.* The librarian's report, presented at the annual meeting on May 8, gives the following facts: Added 623; circulation 49,645 (fict. 25,984; juv. 13,573); card-holders 1546.

The meeting was notable as marking the official recognition of the gifts of 114,400 feet of land to be used as a site for the new building

from the Holyoke Water Power Co., and \$10,000 contributed to the building fund by J. Pierpont Morgan, of New York. The library fund has also received a contribution of \$5000 from the Farr Alpaca Co.

*Ilion (N. Y.) F. P. L.* (6th rpt.—year ending May 1, '99.) Added 483; total 10,328. Issued, home use 40,975 (fict. 18,776; juv. 9846). Total registration 2806. Receipts and expenses \$5187.65.

*Kansas State Hist. Soc. L., Topeka.* (Biennial rpt., Nov. 1, '96—Nov. 1, '98.) Added 10,790 (incl. pamphlets, etc.); total 102,325. A large number of gifts were made during the period covered, the most notable being 358 v. and 196 pm. from the library of the late Major J. B. Abbott, and 128 v. from the library of the late Dr. Joseph Tingley. The long contention between the state library and the society library, which has for years been waged over the proposition that the state library should combine its miscellaneous collection with the society library, was ended by a resolution passed at the last annual meeting, voting that the controversy should cease. "The embarrassments caused by reason of the scant and unsuitable rooms for the society still continue."

Appended is a list of the 20,881 v. of bound newspapers and periodicals in the library. Those relating to Kansas (13,781) are listed alphabetically by counties; those of other states and countries by name of locality. The list covers 72 nonpareil pages.

*Mansfield (O.) Memorial L. Assoc.* (12th rpt.—year ending March 31, '99.) Added 577; total 8430. Issued, home use 37,095 (fict. 19,318); borrowers' cards in use 5940; visitors to reading-room 40,928. Receipts \$2665.03; expenses \$2087.21.

A travelling library on American history was received from the Ohio State Library and proved useful in school work. The Newark charging system was introduced in August. Trustees and librarian express their disappointment that the request for a children's room—made to the board of education—was not granted; "it is earnestly hoped that in the near future this very important branch of work may be started."

*New York. Aguilar F. L. Soc.* (10th rpt., 1898.) Added 13,113; total 55,190, distributed among the four libraries now existing. Issued, home use 503,033, an increase of 52,485 over the preceding year. Total registration 64,360. Receipts \$50,830.94; expenses \$46,877.33.

*N. Y. P. L.* The Slavic department of the library, for which an initial appropriation of \$1000 was made last January, was recently opened. It contains the nucleus of a collection of books in Russian and allied tongues, consisting of about 100 volumes, chiefly classics of the Russian drama, fiction, poetry, and belles-lettres. New accessions are constantly being received, and it is expected that about 1000 volumes will be on the shelves by January. A valuable part of the collection will be the files

of all public documents issued by the several departments of the Russian government and by the states and cities of the empire, which will be contributed by the national and local authorities. The Russian Geographical Society, the Russian Historical Society, and the Imperial Academy of Science will also send their official publications to the library. This department was instituted in response to a petition signed by 54 Russian residents in New York City, many of whom are correspondents of papers and periodicals published in England.

The Semitic department, established two years ago, now contains 4000 volumes in the Hebrew language and in Judæo-German, the dialect commonly spoken by Russian Jews.

*Northwestern Univ. L., Evanston, Ill.* (Rpt. — year ending April 30, '99.) Added 2913; total 40,279. "The number of volumes added to the library by purchase is much greater than in any preceding year, and these books meet some of the most pressing needs of the several departments." Gifts of special value have also been received. The recorded use of books was 12,262, of which 5111 were issued on reading-room slips. This shows but a fraction of the actual use of the library.

"The beginning of a new card catalog has been made. All books cataloged since July 1, 1898, have been cataloged on the basis of the catalog of the library of the Peabody Institute. This plan involves much more exhaustive cataloging than has heretofore been attempted in the history of this library. But the inadequacy of abbreviated cataloging in meeting the demands of university work became so apparent that this beginning has been made in order that new books may be cataloged in the manner that will remove the necessity of recataloging them at some later date; and this beginning has also been made with the hope that at no distant date the means may be provided for treating the entire library in the same thorough manner."

"The most urgent need of the library is an increase in its working staff."

*Oakland (Cal.) P. L.* A library training class has been established for the members of the library force, and lectures upon library work have been given by Miss Mary Williams, graduate of the New York State Library School. Addresses by the librarians of several California libraries will also be given.

*Pasadena (Cal.) P. L.* During the N. E. A. convention at Los Angeles in July the library displayed an interesting exhibit of "California in literature and illustration." One panel of the wall space was devoted to large pictures of the mission south of San Luis Obispo; a second panel to folio sheets from the California reading table of the Pasadena Library; a third to mission Indian music; a fourth to fruit and flower photographs; and the fifth, and last, to photographs of the library board of directors, the librarian and her assistants, the exterior and interior of the library building, and a special view of the California reading table. Upon

a table set under the large mission pictures was exhibited a map of the Camino Real, showing the famous missions, presidios, and pueblos of the time of Alfred Robinson, the map being the finished and careful work of the assistant librarian, Miss Prentiss.

*Passaic (N. J.) P. L.* The library is described and illustrated in the New York Times illustrated supplement, Sunday, Aug. 6.

*Pennsylvania State L.* On Aug. 1 the library was reopened, after having been closed for a month for reclassification and general reorganization. The work was begun on June 10, and was completed a month before the date set for its conclusion. It was carried through by a force of 54 persons in addition to the regular staff, and included the complete reclassification of the books and the preparation of a new card catalog. A special appropriation was made for the work by the last legislature. The library has also been improved by a general repainting, the construction of a much-needed passageway through the stack-room, the installation of new tables, etc.

*Peoria (Ill.) P. L.* (19th rpt. — year ending May 31, '99.) Added 4350; total 70,317. Issued 152,982 (fict. 44.88%; juv. fict. 24.80%), of which 14,784 were issued through the schools. Cards in use 6393. Receipts \$16,010.87; expenses \$15,974.81.

An interesting report. Like most other librarians, Mr. Willcox has to report a slight decline in circulation, attributable to the Spanish war, and this occasions some suggestive remarks upon the factors that must limit circulation. He says:

"The difficulty of forcing our public to absorb more than a certain amount of general reading in a given period is shown by our experience in the public schools. At the beginning of the school year it has been our custom to place in each of our public schools farthest from the centre of town a small library of from 200 to 400 attractive books, carefully chosen to suit the taste and capacity of young people. These books are issued at the schools under precisely the same conditions as at the library itself, and are read at home by members of the family as well as by the pupils. Since the children attending these outlying schools are mostly strangers to the public library, the privilege of reading such books must be a new pleasure to them, and we might reasonably look for a steady increase in this school circulation, especially as two new schools were furnished with libraries this year. Yet the total circulation from seven schools was only 14,784, as against 15,029 from five schools last year, a loss of 245. There would seem to be such a thing as a point of saturation." Among adult readers it is found that "up to about the age of 25 or 30 our young men fresh from school and our clerks and mechanics keep up their reading with more or less of continuity; then comes business or a profession and a gap in their general reading, or they continue it from their own growing private collections; but be-

tween the ages of 30 and 65 men do not draw books from the public library, they consult them in the line of their work."

Mr. Willcox's remarks regarding the lack of durability of expensive or standard books deserve special consideration.

*Phenix (Aris.) P. L.* The work of organizing the library is being effectively carried on. Mrs. M. P. Chubb has been appointed librarian, a number of new books have been added, and it is proposed to make a card catalog.

*Pittsfield, Mass. Berkshire Athenaeum.* (Rpt. — year ending June 1, '99.) Added 2529; total 34,041. Issued, home use 85,379. 1187 v. have been sent to the public schools, where they have had a circulation of 3175. New registration 1162; total registration 4028.

Mr. Ballard says: "This public library has never meant so much to the intellectual life of Pittsfield as during the year ending June 1, 1899. The use of the books set apart for home circulation has been almost phenomenal. All previous records have been broken," the increase for 1899 being given as nearly 40 per cent.

*Port Jervis (N. Y.) P. L.* (Rpt. — year ending June 30, '99.) Added 1086; total 10,255. Issued, home use 28,285. Visitors to reading-room 89,488. A new registration of borrowers was begun in April.

*Poughkeepsie, N. Y. Adriance Memorial L.* Mr. Sickley has prepared a list of historical stories illustrative of American history, for use in schools and in the library, which differs from the ordinary bulletins. The list is printed as a large placard, in advertising style, divided to indicate the various periods. Some copies are printed on heavy cardboard. The style, arrangement, etc., are well calculated to arouse interest.

*Rome, N. Y. Jervis L. A.* The librarian's report for the year ending June 30, '99, gives the following facts: Added 686; total 12,798. Issued, home use 41,034 (fict. 74%; juv. fict. 82%). Registration (since Oct. 1, when new registration was begun), 1980.

"As a method of advertising the library, 2000 folders, giving the library hours and an invitation to come for a book, were printed and distributed among the manufacturing establishments of the city. We have no means of knowing just how many new readers came directly and indirectly as a result of this experiment, but we know of 14 who responded."

*Salt Lake City (Utah) P. L.* The annual report of the trustees, presented May 31, gives the following facts: Added 1159; total 12,001. Issued, home use 65,545 (fict. 40,784; juv. 16,991); reading room use, 41,101. Total registration, 5773. These statistics show that during its existence of less than a year and a half, the library has made a good record for activity and growth. The trustees state that its facilities are already greatly overtaxed, and that it is impossible to properly accommodate readers and borrowers. More room is urgently needed. They ask for a more liberal appro-

priation, and estimate the expenses of the coming year at \$12,000. The present tax levy yields a little over \$5100.

*San Francisco, Pythian L.* The Pythian Library of San Francisco, the only one in California, sustained for many years by the local lodges of the Knights of Pythias, has been closed and sold to the newly established free library of San Mateo, one of the suburbs of San Francisco.

*Springfield (Mass.) City L.* The reclassification of the library upon the Expansive system has now been begun and will be carried through as promptly as the extent of the task permits. The present classification is a fixed location scheme, and the growth of the library within recent years has made it unwieldy and inconvenient. The work has been begun on the juvenile books other than fiction.

A small branch library of 1000 volumes has been established at the street-railway office for the use of employees. If it proves appreciated it will be continued, the collection being changed at regular intervals.

*Tacoma (Wash.) P. L.* At a recent meeting of the library board of the city council a general reorganization of the library was advocated, with its withdrawal from political influences. One councilman, who had previously been a supporter of political rule, is quoted as saying: "The library should be removed entirely from the influence of politics. We should have the best possible management in the library and should retain it. The librarian should be a man familiar with his books and those which the city should have. Such a man is a rarity, and when we obtain him he should not fear removal by a changed administration. I have been in the council six years and in that time the library has had five librarians. The first was William Curtis Taylor, probably the best librarian the city has had. He was thoroughly familiar with the library and loved his work. The second was Herbert Bashford, now state librarian. Jonathan Smith succeeded Bashford and he gave way to Alexander McCready. The present incumbent, Captain Jennings, followed. This is practically an average of one man a year, and no man can become familiar with his work in that time. A librarian should be retained as long as he is efficient. Indianapolis, Chicago, and other eastern cities practice this plan." It was suggested that the library board should be a non-partisan body, elected by the people.

It is to be hoped that these suggestions may be followed, and it is at least encouraging that they should have been made regarding a library that for five years past has been used practically as a political office.

*Uniontown, Pa.* The site for the Carnegie Library has been finally settled by the acceptance of the offer of J. K. Ewing to give for the purpose a five-acre tract on Fayette street, almost in the heart of the town. The property, which is worth \$30,000, will be improved and converted into a park.

### Gifts and Bequests.

**Beaver, Pa.** On Aug. 19 it was announced that in response to an appeal made by a local club of young women, known as the Bachelor Maids, Andrew Carnegie had offered to give \$50,000 for the establishment of a public library, on condition that the town furnish the site and maintain the library. The offer was received with general appreciation and will be accepted.

**Grove City, Pa.** Andrew Carnegie offered on Aug. 24 to give \$50,000 for a public library for Grove City, \$25,000 to be devoted to a building, and on its erection the remaining \$25,000 to be applied to its equipment. The gift is on condition that the town furnish a site and guarantee \$3000 a year for the library's maintenance. The offer will be accepted.

**San Diego (Cal.) P. L.** At a special meeting of the library trustees on July 27 a letter was read from Andrew Carnegie offering to give \$50,000 for a library building, provided the city furnish a site and guarantee an annual appropriation for the library's support. The offer was promptly accepted, and organization plans are now under consideration.

**Shutesbury (Mass.) P. L.** By the will of the late Mirick N. Spear, of Amherst, the library is bequeathed the sum of \$1500.

### Librarians.

**DAVIES, John F.**, for seven years librarian of the Butte (Mont.) Free Public Library, has resigned that position. Mr. Davies came to Butte from the St. Louis Public Library, of which he was head assistant, in the spring of 1892, and under his direction the Butte library has grown largely in usefulness and in popular appreciation. His resignation is due to political influences which have been strengthened since the last municipal election, and it was precipitated by the result of the September meeting of the library board, when by a close vote two minor positions on the library force were declared vacant and new appointments were made in accordance with the opinion expressed by one of the members, that "to the victors belong the spoils." During the years of his connection with the library Mr. Davies has given himself with devotion to its welfare, and has sought in all ways to extend its influence. He has been succeeded by Dr. J. R. Russel, formerly pastor of the leading Presbyterian church in Butte, who has also served as city superintendent of schools.

**EHRLH, Father Franz, S. J.**, the librarian of the Vatican, was among those upon whom the University of Oxford conferred the honorary degree of D.C.L. in July.

**FATOUT, Miss Nellie B.**, of the New York State Library School, 1898-99, has been appointed classifier and cataloger of the Anderson (Ind.) Public Library.

**GRISWOLD, William McCrillis**, well known as the compiler and publisher of the "Q. P." and other indexes, and as a reviewer, died at his

summer home at Seal Harbor, Me., on Aug. 3. Mr. Griswold was born in Bangor, Me., Oct. 9, 1853, being a son of Rufus Willmot Griswold, the editor and biographer of Poe. He studied at Phillips-Exeter Academy and at Harvard, from which he was graduated in 1875, and was for about four years an assistant of Mr. Spofford in the Copyright Department of the Library of Congress. It was while he was in that library that he issued the first of his series of indexes, the general index to the *Nation* for 1865-1880. This was a personal enterprise, undertaken even without the knowledge of the editors of the periodical indexed, and it was followed by a special political index to the same publication, entitled "A record of politics and politicians in the United States, 1865-1882," and by the series of Quarterly Periodical ("Q. P.") indexes to the *Atlantic*, *North American Review*, *International Review*, *Lippincott*, *Eclectic*, *Littell's Living Age*, the first 22 volumes of *Scribner*, *Deutsche Rundschau*, *Contemporary* and *Fortnightly Reviews*, *Nineteenth Century*, *Revue des Deux Mondes* and *Nouvelle Revue*. He also published seven "Cumulative indexes," including one to *Harper's Weekly*, 1857-1887; "Descriptive lists of novels and tales," dealing with American country and American city life, with ancient history, history of North America, life in France, Germany, Italy, Norway, and Russia; also, "Descriptive lists" of "International novels," "British novels," and "Romantic novels." He also prepared a "Directory of writers for the literary press in the United States," and a "Directory of authors, including writers for literary magazines"; a number of annual indexes; a compilation of narratives called "Travel," including "France," "Germany," and "Switzerland"; and in 1898 "Passages from the correspondence and other papers of Rufus W. Griswold," which was intended as a truthful presentation of his father's literary relations. Mr. Griswold was a man of independent income, and his indexing and other enterprises were labors of love, carried out in accordance with his own ideas and published by himself. Their practical usefulness was hindered by the eccentricities of abbreviation and phonetic orthography which he adopted and sturdily maintained, but they made and still make available a great mass of valuable material for those who have the patience and the desire to seek it. Mr. Griswold had been a member of the A. L. A. since 1881. His home for many years was in Cambridge, Mass., and he is survived by a wife and children.

**GUILD, Reuben Aldridge.** The "Memorial discourse" on the late Dr. Guild, delivered by Rev. Henry Melville King in the First Baptist Meeting-house of Providence, on June 18, 1899, has been issued in pamphlet form. It is a sincere tribute to Dr. Guild's long life of service in his community and his profession.

**RICHIE-CURNOW.** Herbert E. Richie, assistant librarian of the Denver (Colo.) City Library, was on Aug. 18 married to Miss Charlotte E. Curnow, assistant in the same library.

STANLEY, Miss Harriet H., graduate with honor of the New York State Library School, class of '95, has resigned her position as librarian of the Southbridge (Mass.) Public Library to become assistant in charge of work with the schools in the Brookline (Mass.) Public Library.

TEMPLE, Miss Mabel, graduate of the New York State Library School, class of '90, has been appointed librarian of the North Adams (Mass.) Public Library, succeeding Miss Augusta Duntion, who will become associate librarian. Miss Temple has for the past five years been head cataloger at Brown University Library.

TURNER, Miss Minnie, for six months acting librarian of the East St. Louis (Kan.) Public Library, was on Aug. 21 appointed librarian of that library. Miss Turner had been first assistant in the library for several years.

WARWICK, Miss Elma, who was elected librarian of the Withers Public Library, of Bloomington, Ill., in June, has resigned that position to become librarian of the State Normal School, De Kalb, Ill.

WYCHE, Benjamin, formerly librarian of the University of Texas, has been engaged to reclassify and catalog the State Library of North Carolina.

### Cataloging and Classification.

BIBLIOGRAFIA UNIVERSALIS. Pubblicazione cooperativa dell'Istituto bibliografico internazionale di Bruxelles, anno 1, fasc. 1, 1899. Firenze, G. Civala, 1899. 8 p. 1. O.

This pamphlet, by Signor Saladino Saladini-Pilastri, is explanatory of the accompanying first bulletin of the bibliography of contemporary Italian law, classified by the decimal system as one of the publications of the Brussels International Institute of Bibliography. A synoptical table and an alphabetical index to the bulletin are promised among the early issues. In his introduction Signor Saladini-Pilastri shows himself an ardent advocate of the decimal system, though he suggests various numerical additions and embellishments that to our thinking would make it much too complicated for any but expert use. Apparently he has no fault to find with the classification itself, any more than with the notation, for he contents himself with a simple translation of that part of the classification referring to law. The bulletin itself consists of eight pages, of 10 or more entries each, the page printed on one side only, in order that the entries may be cut apart and mounted on cards. The entries are very full, both as to title and imprint.

BUFFALO (N. Y.) P. L. Descriptive catalogue of the Gluck collection of manuscripts and autographs in the Buffalo Public Library. Buffalo, July, 1899. 8 + 150 p. 1. O.

This elaborate catalog has been prepared by Mrs. H. L. Elmendorf, in accordance with

the terms on which Mr. Gluck completed the gift of his interesting collection to the Buffalo Library, in May, 1897, i. e., "That a proper catalog be printed which shall describe the specific items of the collection and which shall be at all times accessible to the public." The collection which was gathered during the years 1885 to 1897 is an extensive one, mainly literary in character, and while chiefly representative of American writers, includes such names as Francis Bacon, Balzac, Disraeli, Berenger, Blake, Charlotte Brontë, the Brownings, Burns, Tennyson, Coleridge, De Quincey, Dickens, Dryden, George Eliot, Heine, Hugo, Macaulay, Pope, Scott, Shelley, Voltaire, and Wordsworth. The catalog is an author list, giving full name, date and place of birth, and describing the respective items in detail; in most cases the manuscripts are accompanied by portraits, which are also noted. The most interesting manuscripts, which have not appeared in print or which differ materially from the printed text, are reproduced. Among these, the letters of the Brownings, of Macaulay and of Greeley, and the Keats sonnet are especially interesting. Appended to the Gluck catalog is a short "list of manuscripts and autographs in the Buffalo Public Library not belonging to the Gluck collection, arranged under the names of the persons who gave them to the library"; a careful index completes the well-made volume.

INSTRUCTIONEN für die alphabetischen kataloge der Preussischen Bibliotheken und für den Preussischen Gesamt-katalog. Vom 10. Mai, 1899. Berlin, A. Asher & Co., 1899. 164 p. F.

INTERNATIONAL CATALOGUE OF SCIENTIFIC LITERATURE. Field, Herbert Haviland. The international catalogue of scientific literature. (*In Science*, Aug. 25, 1899. 10: 254-256.)

A defence of the Dewey classification against the recent numerous and vigorous attacks on it with reference to the proposed international catalog.

— The international catalogue of scientific literature. (*In Science*, July 14, 1899. 10: 46-50.)

Prof. Charles E. Bessey, of the University of Nebraska, adversely criticises the classification of Botany, and W. J. McGee that of Anthropology.

"LIBRARY BUILDINGS: an index of illustrations," is the title under which the Boston Public Library includes, in the August issue of its *Monthly Bulletin*, a revision and extension of the valuable reference list first published in its *Quarterly Bulletin* for January, 1886, and May, 1888, and reprinted with additions in L. J., 11: 409, 13: 291. Since then the work of collecting has been continued to the present time by Mr. Whitney, and additional information has been obtained through blank forms sent to libraries which have erected new buildings. The library began its collection of plans

and other material relating to library buildings at the time when the plans for its own new building were under consideration, and the extent of the material gathered within the last few years is a remarkable indication of the modern growth of libraries. This second edition of the index covers 31 two-column pages, indexing 27 publications, and is in a measure a guide to and record of modern library architecture. Its value to librarians is great.

The N. Y. P. L. *Bulletin* for July continues its reprinting of the Virginia papers, and includes an extensive classed check list of works on "Fish and fisheries," covering 16 pages. This does not include works on angling as a sport, a list of which may be later published.

The OSTERHOUT (*Wilkes-barre, Pa.*) *L. Newsletter* for August contains a useful short list of "Some books of value for the study of missions," compiled by the Rev. V. H. Lukens.

The PRATT INSTITUTE F. L., *Brooklyn, N. Y.*, issued in August no. 1 of vol. 1 of a *Monthly Bulletin*, to be devoted to library news, special lists, record of accessions, etc. The first number contains a classed list of selections from recent additions.

U. S. DEPT. OF AGRICULTURE. Library bulletin, July, 1899: Accessions to the department library, April - June, 1899. 24 p. [printed on one side only.] D.

WABASH R.R. DEPT. Y. M. C. A. L., *Decatur, Ill.* Catalog of books. 1899. nar. O.

The library is the gift of Miss Helen Gould, and was selected, classified, and cataloged by W. F. Stevens, of the Railroad branch of the Y. M. C. A. It is an author and title list in one alphabet.

#### CHANGED TITLES.

"John Jasper's secret, sequel to Charles Dickens's [sic] *Mystery of Edwin Drood*, by Charles Dickens, Jr., and Wilkie Collins," published in 1898 by R. F. Fenno & Co., is identical with a book of the same title, published anonymously by T. B. Peterson, Phila., with copyright date of 1871. Allibone's supplement assigns the authorship of this book to Henry Morford, and the "American catalogue" of 1876 assigns it to the same authorship. S. W.

"Admirals all and other verses," by Henry Newbolt (London: Elkin Mathews, 1898), is a little book of poems. "The island race," by Henry Newbolt (London: Elkin Mathews, 1899), is also a little book of poems, containing all published in the former volume and others. S: H. R.

#### FULL NAMES.

Mrs. M. E. M. DAVIS. Thanks to the Cumulative Book Index Co. of Minneapolis, attention was called to an error in the Copyright bulletin in the entry of "The wire cutters," by Mary Evelyn Moore Davis. An investigation showed, that owing to a similarity in the names of two southern women writers, some confusion evidently existed in various catalogs as to the

proper distinction between their works. A letter to the author of "The wire cutters" brought a response, the gist of which is here offered for the benefit of those catalogers who may have followed misleading printed authorities.

Mrs. Mary Elizabeth Moragné Davis, now of Alabama, wrote in 1864 "A British partizan" (see Allibone, Supplement, v. 1, p. 461). In 1888 she wrote a volume of verse under the title "Lays from the sunny lands."

Mrs. Mary Evelyn Moore Davis, of New Orleans, La., is the author of the following books: 1. Minding the gap and other poems. 1872. (Under her maiden name, Mollie E. Moore.) 2. In war times. 1888. 3. Under the man fig. 1895. 4. Under six flags. 1897. 5. A Christmas masque of St. Roch. 1897. 6. An elephant track and other stories. 1897. 7. The wire cutters. 1899. J. C. M. HANSEN.

MRS. MATILDA COXE (EVANS) STEVENSON. Mrs. Tilly E. Stevenson is the same as Matilda Coxé Stevenson. Mrs. Stevenson in her early writings used her school name, Tilly Evans, abbreviating the surname to initial. Later she resumed her real forenames, Matilda Coxé, but omitted her maiden name.

Henshaw, Henry Wetherbee, and Turner, Lucien McShan, authors of papers in the reports of the U. S. Bureau of Ethnology.

Royce, Charles C. The C is simply an initial added by himself for purposes of distinction, and is not an initial of a name. N. E. B.

Rev. Charles Durkee Merrill is the full name of the author of "A summer sheaf" [poetry] (Beloit, Wis., 1891), and "Potato culture on the Island of Jersey" (Medina, O., 1896). Authority of author—M. M. O.

The following full names of authors of copyright books are supplied by the Catalogue Department, Library of Congress:

Boericke, William, and Dewey, Willis Alonzo (The twelve tissue remedies of Schüssler, 4th ed., 1899);

Carhart, John Wesley (Under palmetto and pine);

Coston, William Hilary (The Spanish-American war volunteer);

Davidson, Nicholas Perry (A classification of surgical operations);

De Leon, Edwin Warren, and Moon, Sidney Norman (The law of liability);

Delling, Charles Manoah (Ethel Holbrook);

Dingwell, James Davidson (The closing century's heritage);

Drinkhouse, Edward Jacob (History of Methodist reform);

Elson, Henry William (Side lights on American history, 1899);

Foss, Hans Anderson (Tobias: a story of the Northwest, 1899);

Gash, Abram Dale (The false star: a tale of the Occident, 1899);

Hale, Richard Walden (The Dreyfus story);

Holaind, René Isidore (Natural law and legal practice, 1899);

Hunt, William Chamberlin (The scope and method of the twelfth census [1899.] [In American Econ. Assoc. pub., n.s., no. 2]);

Kupfer, Lillian (Manual: natural history studies [anon.], 1897);

Loomis, Herbert Norton (Outlines in botany);

Milne, William James (Plane and solid geometry);

Nichols, Joseph Marvin (The law of misdeeds);

North, Simon Newton Dexter (Manufactures in the federal census [1899.] [In Amer. Econ. Assoc. pub., n.s., no. 2]);

Reagen, Harry Clifton (Locomotive mechanism and engineering, 1898);

Scofield, Cyrus Ingerson (Plain papers on the doctrine of the Holy Spirit);

Stedman, Thomas Lathrop, ed. (Twentieth century practice, v. 16, Infectious diseases, 1899);

Valadier, Charles Auguste (Materia medica notes; compiled for medical students, 1898);

Wharton, Henry Redwood, and Curtis, Benjamin Farquhar (The practice of surgery. Rev. ed., 1899);

Wilson, Mabel Aureola (Love, light, and life for God's little children);

Wishard, Luther Deloraine (The student's challenge to the churches).

*The following are supplied by the John Crerar Library:*

Austin, Arthur Converse (Practical half-tone and tri-color engraving);

Marston, Thomas Brunton (Territorial expansion and the Federal Constitution).

### Bibliography.

ART. American art annual, 1898; ed. by Florence N. Levy. N. Y., Macmillan, 1899. 540 p. 8°. \$3.

Pages 80-87 contain the art books of the year, arranged alphabetically by title. Publishers and prices are given. There is also an incomplete list of art magazines.

Béguis, Alfr. L'enfer de la Bibliothèque nationale: revendication de livres saisis à son domicile et déposé à la Bibliothèque impériale en 1866; débats judiciaires. Paris, Carteret & Cie, 1899. 183 p. 8°.

CAPRI AND SORRENTO. Furchheim, Federigo. Bibliografia della isola di Capri e della penisola Sorrentina, aggiuntavi la bibliografia di Amalfi, Salerno, e Pesto, anticamente Posidonia o Paestum in Lucania; corredata di note critiche. Napoli, F. Furchheim, 1899. 87 p. 8°. 5 lire.

The second volume of the "Bibliografia della Campania," of which Furchheim's "Bibliografia del Vesuvio" formed the initial volume.

COLBERT, Jean Baptiste. Sargent, A. J. The economic system of Colbert. N. Y., Longmans, Green & Co., 1899. 2 + 138 p. D. (Studies in economics and political science.) net, 75 c.

Pages 118-133 comprise a classified and annotated bibliography.

CONSUMPTION. Walters, F. Rufenacht. Sanatoria for consumptives in various parts of the world: a critical and detailed description, together with an exposition, of the open-air or hygienic treatment of phthisis. N. Y., Scribner, 1899. 19 + 374 p. 8°. net, \$4.20. Contains a 10-page bibliography.

CORSICA. Caird, L. H. The history of Corsica. Lond., T. Fisher Unwin, 1899. 11 + 179 p. 12°.

Contains a list of authorities — 18 titles.

EDUCATION. Hazlitt, W. Carew. Further contributions toward a history of earlier education in Great Britain. (*In The Antiquary*, July, 1899. 35: 204-210.)

This instalment deals with Latin school-books, Greek school-books, and earlier English school-books.

FINNEY, B. A. Bibliography in the high-school course; reprinted from the supplement to *University News-letter*, no. 28. 4 p. O.

An address delivered to the Michigan Schoolmasters' Club, Ypsilanti, in April, 1899, reviewing what has already been done toward including bibliographic instruction in high-school courses, and describing the course given by Mr. Finney at the Ann Arbor High School.

PLAY AND AMUSEMENT. Hewes, Amy, comp. Special bibliography, no. 3: Play and amusement. (*In The American Journal of Sociology*, July, 1899. 5: 134-144.)

This bibliography is intended to cover in general: American books from 1876 to date (1898), English books from 1832 to date, French books from 1840 to date, German books from 1890 to date. Numerous titles of an earlier date, however, have been included.

### INDEXES.

DIETRICH, FELIX. Bibliographie der deutschen Zeitschriften-Litteratur. Band 3: Alphabetisches nach Schlagworten sachlich geordnetes Verzeichnis von Aufsätzen, die während des J. 1898 in ca. 520 zumeist wissenschaftlichen Zeitschriften deutscher Zunge erschienen sind, mit Autoren-Register. Herausgegeben unter Mitwirkung von E. Roth und M. Grolig. Leipzig, Felix Dietrich, 1899. 16 + 258 p. 4°. 16 m.

### Anonymous and Pseudonyms.

JOSIAH FLYNT. Josiah Flynt is the pen-name of Mr. Frank Willard, son of Mrs. Mary Bannister Willard, now resident in Berlin, Germany. He is a nephew of the late Frances E. Willard. — DR. G. E. WIRE.



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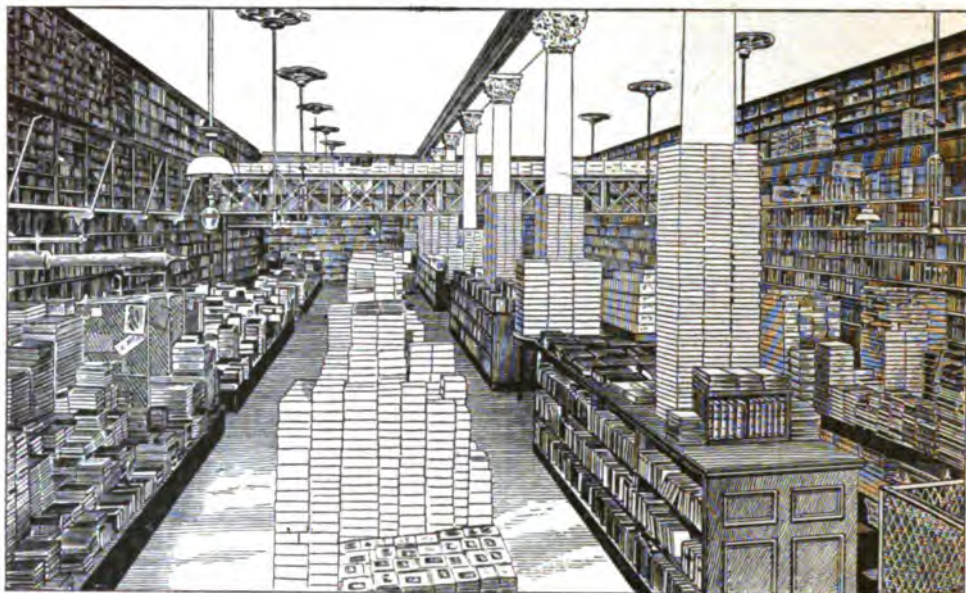
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# The Annual Literary Index, 1898

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VOL. 24. No. 10

OCTOBER, 1899

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# THE LIBRARY JOURNAL

VOL. 24.

OCTOBER, 1899.

No. 10

DR. RICHARD GARNETT, as Keeper of Printed Books in the British Museum, has been the dean of the library profession in its wider international relations; since his retirement he is not less the honored head of the profession, and that event has been made the occasion of abundant proof of the affectionate esteem in which he has been and will ever be held by all who have knowledge of libraries, and most by those who have had personal touch with him. The portrait which faces this page is a copy of that painted at the order of personal friends of Dr. Garnett and presented to him with the intention that—at a day far distant, we may hope—it will find place in the national portrait gallery of English worthies who have earned their right to be always remembered by Englishmen. Certainly Dr. Garnett is among these, and his enduring reputation, second only to that of Panizzi in relation with the British Museum, is already wide beyond national bounds. It may be said that this portrait represents the personal love and affection in which so wide a circle of Englishmen and of American visitors to England hold this loving and lovable man, who never said an unkind word, we may believe, to the humblest of his staff, and who has been always ready with all his learning and with absolute patience to put himself at the service of the humblest reader.

IN testimonial of the bibliographical side of his work a number of his associates in the British Museum united in a memorial of equally happy inspiration—a very beautiful volume recording, in full bibliographical entry and with many facsimiles from quaint or interesting title-pages, "Three hundred notable books added to the Library of the British Museum under the Keepership of Richard Garnett, 1890-99." Mr. Pollard and Mr. Proctor of the Museum have represented in this happy memorial many of Dr. Garnett's associates throughout his years of devotion to the Museum, and the book will be one of the treasures of bibliography, printed as it is only in sufficient number to supply a

copy to each participant as well as the copies presented to Dr. Garnett. But a still more noteworthy memorial on the bibliographical side is that of Dr. Garnett's own workmanship in his collected papers on bibliographical and library subjects, issued from the press this same year in "The library series." This volume shows the qualities which have made Dr. Garnett successful as a librarian, bibliographer, editor, and writer, and it is a happy coincidence that it should come in this series at this time.

PERHAPS the crowning recognition of his work was that which made so pleasant a feature of the recent conference of the Library Association of the United Kingdom, at Manchester, when, after the formal toasts which necessarily make part of every dinner in Her Majesty's kingdom, the toast to Dr. Garnett's health and happiness was made the occasion of the presentation of a memorial to him from his brethren of the library profession. It is here, indeed, that his personal qualities of kindness and universal sympathy have shone brightest. The Library Association of our kin across sea has not always had the smooth sailing which has been enjoyed by the American association, and more than once a burning question, such as that still raging over open shelves, has divided our sister association into opposing camps. In his relations with his fellow-librarians, he has satisfied all, without making himself a partisan of any school, and what the *Library Association Record* says *apropos* of his book, is true in his Association work: "Let us read a lesson; although the writer deals with subjects often very controversial, he always does so without offence to his reader. Indeed it is this spirit, and the spirit of generosity, which attract our attention throughout. Dr. Garnett keeps ever before him the *great* ideal of giving praise when praise is due." No words can be too strong or too loving, indeed, to express the esteem and affection with which he is honored.

It is understood that the British Museum with the beginning of the new century will supplement its great catalog by reprinting in one alphabet the entries of accessions since the date of that catalog, thus furnishing in two alphabets a general catalog of the English and other books in the British Museum up to the beginning of the twentieth century. While this will make unnecessary the interesting work which had been planned at the Newberry Library by means of Mr. Rudolph's blue-print photo process, an important achievement has been made in that direction by compiling into one volume entries of the Museum accessions, under Academies, making a blue-print volume of 740 columns (370 pages) and 264 columns (132 pages) of index. In this index the societies, arranged in the first alphabet under names of cities and towns, are arranged also under their proper titles, with numerous cross-references. The extent of this index may be gathered from the fact that 21 references are given under Anthropology, 63 under Art, Arts, Arti, etc., and 60 under Archæological, etc., while the index entries of the British Museum itself are sparse in comparison. As a practical proof of the success of this process developed by Mr. Rudolph, the volume is doubly valuable, suggesting as it does the many uses to which the process can be applied.

It is proper that the library profession should seek not only to give the best books to the people but to give them in the best bindings, and we are sure that the leading American publishers will cordially respond to the appeals made by librarians for better work in binding. This subject has been more than once discussed in library conferences and among librarians, but Miss Biscoe's paper presents the most important light that has yet been thrown upon it. The answers of the publishers with whom she communicated directly give not a little useful information as to the ideal of binding, and show a spirit of co-operation which is most welcome. Years ago the library association, through its Co-operation Committee, presented specifications for binding of individual volumes in half leather, which have been accepted as a standard in many quarters, but nothing has ever been done officially as to the more important matter of case-binding in cloth, in which the great body of library books are circulated. It is to be hoped that Miss Biscoe and others interested will pursue their inquiries,

so that at the next conference or thereafter recommendations or specifications may be made which will set an A. L. A. standard for cloth binding that will be welcome to publishers, of service to the public, and of economy in the libraries. A note of warning may be added that here, as elsewhere, something cannot be had for nothing, and if librarians want good binding they must not expect to buy cheap editions at a price which permits of little more in the way of binding than cheap cloth and poor glue.

THE general sympathy of the library fraternity will be extended, we are sure, to the authorities of the City Library of Lincoln, Nebraska, in the recent destruction by fire of their entire collection. The library, while not a large one, had been developed into excellent efficiency, and its sudden loss is a serious misfortune to its managers and to the community. It may be hoped, however, that what is in itself a calamity will have a brighter side in affording opportunity for the rebuilding of the library in accord with the most modern methods.

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### Communications.

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#### DATING SLIPS IN THE BROWNE CHARGING SYSTEM.

NOTICING the recent discussion as to improving the Browne charging system I would offer this comment upon Miss Clarke's suggestion in the August LIBRARY JOURNAL that a separate dating slip should be used, pasted on the fly-leaf opposite the book-pocket: When we adopted the Browne system we used for some years the dating slip exactly as she advised, tipped in with gum at the top of the fly-leaf. We found it very troublesome in that it is always getting torn or wrinkled out of shape and in a short time presents a very unbecoming appearance. If it must be used I would advise that it be either gummed in at top *and bottom* or gummed in the full length of its side to the back of the book, giving it at least the same protection as the leaves of the book against careless handling. I can assure any one that it will not be satisfactory tipped in by the top, and we were very glad to put our dating blank on the book-pocket, where we have space for 66 dates, more than the ordinary life of the binding will demand. The danger to the binding from using the stamp against the cover is easily obviated by grasping the book in the left hand, placing it so that the back cover lies flat on the desk at the moment you affix the date and push it through the window to the borrower—a process which is even a saving of time.

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## BOOKBINDING OF OUR AMERICAN PUBLISHERS.\*

BY ELLEN D. BISCOE, *Librarian Eau Claire (Wis.) Public Library.*

It is only recently that librarians in council assembled have ventured to sit in judgment upon the large publishing houses of the country. Individually they groan and sigh, but feel their helplessness in the presence of the great book firms upon whom they are so dependent. But what the individual librarian may be unable to accomplish, the united librarians of state and country may effect.

Publishers are by no means ignorant of the dissatisfaction felt among librarians, but they are not keenly affected by the ills complained of; they do not experience the annoyance of having a popular book fall to pieces at the third reading, and of then being under the necessity of sending it to the bindery where it may be detained a month or more — much to the dissatisfaction of the public.

Wishing to learn what might be the attitude of the publishers upon the bookbinding question, I wrote on this subject to Harper & Brothers, to Charles Scribner's Sons, and to Houghton, Mifflin & Co.

Charles Scribner's Sons reply: "We appreciate what you say about the binding of our books. We are trying every year to improve the character of our books, especially in the binding, but there are some books printed on coated paper which cannot be well bound. The modern invention of half-tone illustrations requiring enamel surface for printing, has been the cause of very much of the trouble which librarians and private owners have with their books. We have about made up our minds to illustrate only by full-page pasters, printing the text of every book on a strong rag paper, and in that way avoid very much trouble. We sincerely appreciate any criticism and would thank you if you would make it more definite and state what books are particularly bad. With the immense volume of business we are doing we need to hear from our friends outside in order to get correct views about the wearing quality of our books."

Harper & Brothers had evidently already heard complaints from Wisconsin. They write: "Replying to your inquiry of the 17th, in reference to improved methods of bookbinding for

libraries, we would say that we are looking into the question very carefully. The problem is a very vexing one where the books are illustrated. We are hoping, however, to find a satisfactory solution of it, and will write you more fully as soon as we arrive at some conclusion. We have had considerable correspondence with Wisconsin people regarding our bindings, and are investigating the matter with a view to remedying the faults of which they complain. We will try to let you know what progress has been made before the meeting of the state association."

To Houghton, Mifflin & Co. I stated the fact that we found their bindings among the most durable, and asked them what special precautions they took to secure a good binding. They explain that "the strength of the books does not always depend on the binding alone. A great deal depends upon the quality and character of the paper, the form of the make-up for printing, whether in thin sections or thick sections, and the treatment of the book after it is printed as well. We try, so far as we can, to study the make-up of the book from the first, so as to have the paper right, the imposition of the form correct as to thickness, and then we carefully look after the details in binding. What we mean by proper imposition of the signature is to have a good quality of paper, with the grain running the right way, and then not too many pages making up the signature when folded. A good paper can be spoiled by having the signature too thick or too thin, and if the paper is heavy or stiff a less number of pages should be used. . . . When the books are ready made up for sewing, we sew them on flexible thread sewing-machines, using the highest quality of thread, and a flexible glue when lining up the backs before the books are put in their covers. All this gives strength and flexibility."

These letters, coming from three of the oldest and most reliable firms in the country, are surely signs of better times. I do not doubt but that correspondence with other firms would have elicited equally encouraging replies.

The publishers desire to please the public. If we can convince them that the libraries of the country must and will have better bindings

\* Report made at meeting of Wisconsin Library Association, Madison, Aug. 25, 1899.

for their books, if from our experience we can show them where improvement is desirable, we may count with considerable assurance upon the books of the future being more strongly bound.

For the sake of learning the durability of books sent out by different publishing houses, the librarians of the state were written to and were asked to forward to me the results of their observations. I received reports from seven libraries. These reports, together with the many unfortunate examples the Eau Claire Library had to offer, I have tried to bring together in a way that would form a pedestal for our column of complaints.

With the exception of the report from Milwaukee the reports from the different librarians did not state the time each book circulated before it became necessary to relegate it to the bindery, but particularly poorly bound books with the names of their publishers were given.

Houghton, Mifflin & Co.'s publications were most frequently mentioned with favor. Harper's books were most severely condemned and Scribner's were not far behind. The books of Macmillan, Dodd, Mead & Co., Appleton, American Book Co., were found generally to be well bound.

Among the books which have given librarians the most trouble are the following, as listed in the special reports sent in:

*Report from Two Rivers.*

Red axe. Harper.  
Huckleberry Finn (new ed.). Harper.  
Red patriot. Appleton.  
John Marmaduke. Putnam.  
Silence and other stories. Harper.

*Report from Menasha.*

Burt :  
Cast up by the sea.  
All sorts and conditions of men.  
Brontë novels.

Century:  
Fighting a fire.  
Romance of Dollard.  
Captains courageous.  
Sonny.  
Lady Jane.

Harper :  
Conan Doyle's works.  
Dorothy, and other Italian tales.  
Farthest north.

Scribner :  
Frances H. Burnett's works.  
Stokes :  
Phroso.

*Report from Green Bay.*

Farthest north. Harper.  
Complete works of Artemas Ward. Dillingham. Cover off before book had been out half a dozen times.  
Through China with a camera. Constable & Co.

*Report from Racine.*

Alcott books. Roberts.  
Coolidge books. Roberts.  
Henty books. Scribner.  
Munroe books. Harper.

In addition to the above reports a tabulated report was received from the Milwaukee Public Library. This one I supplemented with results of my personal observation, making reports of the different publishing houses recorded on separate sheets.

I submit extracts from a few of these sheets:

Author.	Title.	Times circulated.	Condition.
<i>Appleton.</i>			
Stoddard.	Red patriot.	8	Sent to binder.
Crockett.	Cleg Kelly.	69	One hinge loose.
<i>Century.</i>			
Mitchell.	Adventures of Franjois.	25	Sent to binder.
Mitchell.	Hugh Wynne.	43	Wreck.
Hughes.	Lakerim athletic club.	8	Wreck.
Dodge.	Land of pluck.	60	Rehinged; back firm.
Trowbridge.	Two Biddicut boys.	22	Loose from case.
<i>Dodd, Mead &amp; Co.</i>			
Blackmore.	Slain by the Doones.	60	Hinges repaired.
Krout.	Hawaii and a revolution.	10	Sent to binder.
Drummond.	Monkey that would not kill.	9	Plates out.
<i>Doubleday &amp; McClure Co.</i>			
Norria.	McTeague.	7	Sent to binder.
Kipling.	Day's work.	25	Last pages out; hinges very weak
<i>Estes.</i>			
Richards.	Three Margarets.	16	Wreck.
This book went out 16 times in the Milwaukee Library and 15 times in the Eau Claire Library before going to the binder.			
<i>Harper.</i>			
Doyle.	Refugees.	29	Sewing wretched.
Lillie.	Jo's opportunity.	5	Sent to binder.
Munroe.	Snow-shoes and sledges.	6	Sent to binder.
Davis.	West from car window.	33	O.K.
<i>Houghton, Mifflin &amp; Co.</i>			
Smith.	Caleb West.	43	Sent to binder.
Bates.	Puritans.	20	Sent to binder.
	Story of little Jane and me.	10	Sent to binder.
Wiggin.	Bird's Christmas Carol.	34	Sent to binder.
Carryl.	Davy and the goblin.	22	Wreck.
<i>Lee &amp; Shepard.</i>			
Drake.	Watchfires of '76.	69	Sent to binder.
Hall.	Adrift in the ice fields.	49	Sent to binder.
May.	Dotty Dimple.	29	Wreck.



*Lothrop.*

Sidney. Five little Peppers.  
Circulated 3 times in Milwaukee and 52 times in Eau Claire before going to binder.

*Macmillan.*

Allen.	Choir invisible.	21	Sent to binder.
Crockett.	Stickit minister.	115	Back loose.

*Scribner.*

Dodge.	Hans Brinker.	3	Book free from case.
Fuller.	Across the campus.	2	Book free from case.
Davis.	King's jackal.	54	Sent to binder.
Brooks.	Boy emigrants.	50	Hinges broken.
Eggleston.	Queer stories.	24	Hinges broken.

*Longmans, Green & Co.*

Weyman.	Lady Rotha.	49	Sent to binder.
Weyman.	Castle inn.	30	Sent to binder.
Shearman.	Athletics and football.	23	Back broken.

From these statistics it is evident that many books must be sent to the binder before they have circulated 20 times, that many more will not endure a circulation of 50 issues.

We find that the trouble lies in poor sewing,

both of the signatures to each other and of the signatures to the super; in hinges made of nothing stronger than cheese-cloth; in paper which is either not strong or is wrongly imposed; in illustrations which are inserted last and come out first.

It is surely time that something be done. The publishers are now awake to the dissatisfaction of their patrons. The patrons are becoming more and more irritated with binding which is no credit to the publishing houses issuing the books nor to the libraries receiving and reissuing them. Crusades are somewhat out of date—perhaps enough to warrant their revival. At any rate a crusade of the librarians of this country against the wretched bindings with which they are at present afflicted would be opportune and should draw into its ranks every librarian who has suffered—and where is there one who has not?

## LIBRARY BUILDING—SOME PRELIMINARIES.\*

BY FRANK P. HILL, *Librarian Newark Free Public Library.*

PLANNING a building presupposes its necessity. Many of us who cannot have what we like must be content to like what we have, and though a new building may be urgently demanded, sometimes 'tis better to "bear those ills we have than fly to others that we know not of," particularly if there is the least danger that the architect chosen will not fall in with the notions of the librarian.

We all know that it is the fate of most librarians to live in cramped quarters, to complain of lack of storage capacity, and, like Oliver Twist, to be always asking for "more." Unlike Oliver, the capacity is lacking and not the opportunity to fill it.

The growth of a library is wonderfully rapid. No library building, however large, has yet been constructed whose capacity has not reached its limit sooner than anticipated. The accumulation of books for a given number of years cannot be estimated with any degree of certainty, and is always greater than the most optimistic will venture to predict.

The authorities, usually the trustees, are therefore justified in making provision only for a reasonable growth and not for abnormal development.

Certain preliminaries must be arranged before such a building can be turned over to the board of trustees as a finished product. Briefly stated they are:

1. That the librarian become filled with his subject.
2. That he impart to his trustees the same interest and enthusiasm.
3. That trustees and librarian visit other libraries.
4. Secure money for the building.
5. Choose consulting architect.
6. Select site.
7. Prepare "Conditions of competition."
8. Award contracts.
9. Completion and occupancy of the building.

1: *Librarian's enthusiasm.*

It is not every librarian who has an opportunity of showing what he thinks a library building ought to be, or who, if he has the opportunity, can take advantage of it; still there burns in the heart of every true lover of his profession a strong, well-defined, and laudable desire to plan a library building according to his own ideas of what it should contain and how it should be arranged. If he has planned one he wants to make a second attempt and improve on the first.

It seems to me that the first important step in

\* Paper read at joint meeting of New England library associations, Concord, N. H., Sept. 20, 1899.

this direction is for the librarian to be thoroughly in touch with his subject; to make it a part of his daily life just as much as any other library problem; and at all times and in all places to gather statistics and information for future use. If he is imbued with the modern library spirit, and thoroughly alive to the length and depth and breadth of the subject, he has made library architecture a part of his education, and has laid a solid foundation of information and knowledge for future use. He has studied the subject from every point of view, and from the base up, but if wise has confined his attention to the practical features, leaving the material to the board and the ornamental to the architect.

By thought, observation, conversation, and reading he has become possessed of much that is of real value and eliminated the non-essentials even before any headway has been made by the governing board.

Unless he has made an earnest study of the question, and become closely identified, in an advisory capacity, with the undertaking at its inception, the practical side may have to give way to the architectural; while with his hearty, intelligent, and energetic co-operation the community may obtain a building which will be useful as well as ornamental.

Such a man makes his advice worth asking, and comes to his task peculiarly equipped to be of service to his trustees at all stages.

#### 2: Trustees' interest.

The librarian being well-primed is then in shape to get his trustees ready for action, and will show foresight, prudence, and energy in bringing the subject to their attention. It is presumed that he has their confidence or he would not occupy the responsible position of librarian, and so gradually, carefully, and imperceptibly he may bring them to look at the question from the practical standpoint; and that is the second step — to have the board feel the necessity for a new building.

This is not always an easy task to perform. Sometimes it is necessary to work up public sentiment first. It may be years before the board realizes that a library should be adequately and appropriately housed, for the average trustee is a busy man, engrossed with his own cares and trials, and quite satisfied with "the state of things," as Daudet calls it. He doesn't see why the old quarters are not good enough, or, if a change must be made, why a \$20,000 building will not answer the purpose as

well as a \$50,000 one; a \$100,000 one as well as a \$300,000 one. But the librarian, using tact, can persuade his board of trustees that among other duties that of providing a suitable repository for the collection of books should not be forgotten.

In theory it may be well enough for the trustees to say, "we have a librarian, and he ought to know how to manage the institution." In practice it is far better that the trustees, having assumed the duties and responsibilities of trusteeship, should become familiar with questions of policy, so as to enable them quickly to see the needs of their own library and discuss library economy intelligently with trustees of other libraries.

As an illustration of what untiring industry and efficiency of trustees can accomplish, it is sufficient to mention the fact that with two exceptions every city in New Jersey having a library established under the act of 1884 owns its own building.

#### 3: Visit other libraries.

It is conceded to be proper for the librarian to attend the annual meetings of the A. L. A. and to visit other libraries, but quite another matter for the trustees to do the same thing at the library's expense; but I believe it is of vital importance that the trustees be in touch with the library spirit which is abroad, and become acquainted with what is being done by other libraries. To this end, therefore, it will prove wise economy and a good investment for the governing body to be represented by at least one of its own members at the annual meeting of the A. L. A., the expense to be paid by the library; and, if the occasion demands, to send the whole board east, west, north, or south in search of information — also at the expense of the library.

In these so-called "junkets" I am a firm believer, and stand ready to uphold them, advise them, and encourage them; and I speak not only out of my own experience, but from the evidence of other librarians. The fact is, many boards would like to take trips of this character, but are afraid to do so on account of public criticism.

I am aware that there is well-grounded objection to ordinary municipal "junketing," but when a board made up like that of library trustees takes a two weeks' trip, travelling night and day, for the purpose of visiting the best and most progressive libraries in the country, it is found to be no mere "picnic." If the itinerary

has been carefully prepared, and the details arranged beforehand, so that the business in hand is attended to "with neatness and dispatch," I venture the opinion that the result will be eminently satisfactory to all concerned—even to those anonymous writers who love to see their communications in the local papers.

Travel tends to broaden the mind and make it more catholic and tolerant; and travel in the interest of a public library is no exception. Visits to other libraries are of importance in showing what to avoid—which is essential to true success—as well as what to adopt. Some trustees who never had time to inquire into the intricacies of, possibly not even to visit, their own local library, find this an occasion for study and reflection; and I have heard of a few who have started out with a very humble idea of a librarian's calling and have returned from the excursion with a quickened sense of their own responsibilities and an exalted opinion of the library's mission.

On such a visit of inspection one certainly gains a fairer idea of the requirements of the institution which he represents, and, if the financial board of the city is to be asked for a money appropriation, is in a position of greater influence with the authorities, and is better prepared to state the reasons why the appropriation should be made. The whole board may sincerely believe that a certain fixed amount will be enough to buy land and erect a suitable building. Is it not a gain—yes, and a master stroke of economy—if, after comparison with cities of the same size, the sum is doubled and perhaps trebled? The sacrifice is indeed worth all it costs in time, expense, and superficial criticism.

#### 4: *Securing money.*

But with the combined enthusiasm of trustees and librarian no advance can be made without funds. There are three ways of raising money—by subscription, by individual gift, and by taxation. For a public library the last is, without question, the most preferable and self-respecting method, as citizens are disposed to feel greater pride in a building which they have paid for—which has cost them some sacrifice—than in a mere gift. That is human nature.

I shall touch only upon one means—that of taxation. To be sure, it is not always practicable to gain the consent of taxpayers to assume this additional burden, but, in states where a mandatory tax is made for the support of a

public library, it should be—and usually is—comparatively easy to have enacted by the legislature a law (subject to the approval of voters) empowering cities to issue bonds for the erection of a library building, the city to provide each year one-half the sinking fund and interest, and the library board, from its annual income, the other half. In assuming this financial obligation, however, the trustees must see that the amount so taken from the library funds does not cripple the institution, for it will readily be appreciated that the operating expenses in the new building will be greater than in the old; and it may also be taken for granted that this cost of maintenance is likely to exceed any estimation or expectation. Then follows retrenchment in salaries and in purchase of books—a deplorable condition indeed.

On the other hand, too much stress cannot be laid on the necessity for securing ample funds at the outset, for it is humiliating to be compelled later to go before the board of aldermen to ask for an additional appropriation.

If the city supplies the funds, there is no excuse, it seems to me, for asking, as is sometimes done, for less than what is known to be wanted, even if the financial board of the city is likely to refuse it—in fact, it is safe to add one-quarter to the amount conservative judges on the board of trustees deem sufficient. Better to have a small surplus than a miserable deficit.

Possibly the sum asked for may not be granted, in which case the question arises, "Is it better to accept the doctrine that 'half a loaf is better than no bread' or bide one's time until the full amount is forthcoming?"

No matter what the undertaking is our vicious American habit of haste rushes in and prods us to make some sort of showing, often against our inclination, invariably against our judgment. This is a bad principle in library construction, and often leads to incomplete, imperfect, and unsatisfactory buildings.

#### 5: *Consulting architect.*

If it is proposed to have a consulting architect he should be chosen even before the site is selected, as from the beginning his services will be valuable. Such an adviser should be of the highest standing in his profession—unbiased, courageous, and conscientious; a man qualified to inspire confidence among his colleagues.

His duties extend through to the completion of the building, and he is usually paid a definite sum in place of a percentage on the cost of the building. He will be called in frequent consultation, and by his advice may prevent the purchase of undesirable property.

Besides assisting in choosing the site, the consulting architect prepares the technical portion of the "Conditions of competition"; assists in deciding the architectural contest; adjusts any differences arising between trustees and "working" architect; and, in general, acts as a sort of safety valve for the trustees. His days of usefulness are varied and long.

For many years it was the prevailing impression among librarians that architects were opinionated, unfair, and unreasonable; and among architects that librarians did not know what they wanted. As a consequence, pleasant relations did not exist. Perhaps it is not too much to say that the librarian was quite as stubborn as the architect, and both were too persistent in endeavoring to carry their point. (And, if I may make bold to say it to this audience, the librarian is still liable to make a mistake.) Happily the old feeling is removed, thanks to Mr. C. C. Soule, who, at the San Francisco Conference in 1891, set forth so clearly and concisely the "Points of agreement among librarians as to library architecture." It opened the eyes of men of both professions, proved conclusively that the active, progressive, and liberal architects and librarians were very near together on vital points, and inferred that where there was disagreement it was quite as often the fault of the librarian as of the architect. They had misunderstood each other and were surprised to find how little difference really existed between them. To-day each acknowledges the good qualities of the other; and it is the exception rather than the rule that architects do not consult several librarians when preparing designs for library buildings.

Competitive contests are responsible in a great measure for further co-operation; and as time goes on the relations are bound to grow closer and more intimate.

When Mr. Soule gives us a supplementary report he will undoubtedly show that the gulf is entirely bridged, and that librarians and architects are supremely happy in having "found themselves."

#### 6: *Selecting site.*

The consideration of site is quite as important as the building itself, and demands the

calm deliberation and the best judgment of clear-headed and far-seeing men.

Of the total amount appropriated, it is estimated that one-fifth may be used for purchasing land, and it is not safe to go beyond that proportion.

The right of condemnation of property should be given the board of trustees whenever the property cannot be purchased at a fair valuation. If it becomes known that certain plots are "being looked at," unless this authority is granted, the property takes a sudden rise in price, and the most desirable location cannot be secured on account of the absurd value set on the land.

The interest of the public is not really aroused until this subject is first broached, and if "general apathy" has heretofore ruled, "general mobility" is now in command. "Veritas," "Constant Reader," "Well-Wisher," and their followers will immediately take a hand in advising the trustees (through the daily and weekly newspapers) as to the best location. Such interest is wholesome, and if of no practical value to the board, it tends to clear the atmosphere and please the people.

It will, I think, be admitted that the library should be near the business section; and it will just as readily be conceded that the best location for a library building is not necessarily on the main street. The principal street of any city is sure to be the noisiest, and property abutting thereon is more valuable than a block or two away, so that pecuniary and other considerations point to a quiet neighborhood, easily accessible from the main street, as being the ideal spot. The shopping district is the magnet which draws the crowd, and a library to do the greatest good must be near the charmed circle. A gift of land may make it obligatory to locate in the residence section, in which case it will be found essential to establish a branch downtown to accommodate business people.

In selecting the site, trustees, taking into account the prospective growth of the institution, will purchase land enough to admit of extending the building at some future time; or if the funds in hand do not justify this outlay, then the location should be such as to make the later purchase of adjoining property feasible at a reasonable figure.

The site having been determined upon, the next step is to decide whether the architect shall be selected outright or a competition inaugu-

rated.\* The latter method in some form has been in favor for many years, and is the one to be noticed here.

#### 7: *Conditions of competition.*

The preparation of the "Conditions of competition," issued for the guidance of competing architects, will next occupy the attention of trustees, librarian, and consulting architect.

For a moment, let us look at the composition of this guide-book. It is usually drafted by the consulting architect and librarian working in harmony, submitted to the building or some other appropriate committee for approval, and by it reported to the full board of trustees for modification and final adoption. If carefully drawn, with due regard for all details—the architect attending to the architectural features and the librarian to such practical questions as size and grouping of rooms—very little supplementary explanation will be necessary.

The circular may be arranged after this manner:

1. Requirements of the library including
  - a. Diagram of the site—showing dimensions, lines, angles, etc.
  - b. Information regarding rooms. Under this heading the requirements of the library may be set forth briefly, allowing the architects the widest latitude; or they may be stated so definitely as to leave little play for the fancy and imagination. A middle course, giving such essential features as have grown out of the fulness of the experience of the librarian in consultation with other librarians, members of his own staff, and others closely identified with library interests, is safest to pursue. Naturally such information will include the size and relative position of the different rooms.†

\* In the 17th annual report of the librarian of the Milwaukee Public Library will be found an explanation of the different modes of competition.

Examples of the non-competitive buildings are Woburn, Mass., and other Richardson libraries, Newberry library, and Scranton and Boston libraries.

Of the limited competition, Chicago, Minneapolis, Buffalo, and Providence.

Of the open competition, Milwaukee, New York Public.

Of the combination of the last two, Washington, Jersey City, and Newark.

† An example of the first method may be seen in the circular issued by the Washington Public Library, and of the "middle course" in those issued by the New York Public Library—Astor, Lenox, and Tilden Foundations—and the Newark Free Public Library.

2. The name of the consulting architect, given as a guarantee of good faith.
3. A description of the kind of competition.\*
4. The different drawings required.
5. Other papers, such as description of building, method of ventilation and heating, and estimated cost.†
6. How the drawings are to be lettered and forwarded—usually to the care of the secretary of the board.
7. Means taken to cover the identity of competitor—no marks or handwriting by which the authorship of the design might become known.
8. Manner of receiving plans—by some official of the board, and a limit of time set.
9. Method of deciding the competition.

As the success of the architectural rivalry depends largely upon this last particular, more than ordinary care should be taken to secure an impartial umpire.

The fairest and most satisfactory procedure is for the board of trustees to appoint a jury of award made up of the consulting architect, the librarian, and a member of the board of trustees, whose duty it shall be to proceed to a careful and detailed examination and judgment of the designs submitted, giving due weight both to artistic quality and practical convenience, to select from the designs presented a certain number which, in their estimation, possess the highest total merit, and to report the same in order of merit to the board of trustees, who shall render the final verdict. When the report is made, the board, in its wisdom, wishing to avoid complications, will not delay the decision, nor attempt to go behind the returns, but will at once adopt the committee's recommendation, ascertain the name of the successful architect, and announce the result.

The examination of plans should be conducted without outside interference, *i.e.*, there should be no public exhibition of competitive

\* Some of the prominent architects in New York have an agreement not to enter any architectural competition unless (a) "paid at least a sufficient sum to reimburse them for their cash outlay in preparing their competitive drawings," (b) "the ordinary fees as published by the American Institute of Architects shall be paid as compensation for his professional services to the successful competitor," (c) "a professional advisor or advisors shall be appointed."

Architects as a general thing are averse to anonymous competitions, but a particularly inviting program will sometimes tempt even the more eminent to participate.

† The amount available for building purposes is stated in the circular.

designs until the selection is definitely made by the board, and even then it is doubtful if any good end is attained. Such exhibition often leads to endless newspaper discussion, and, through injudicious remarks of friends, to the identity of the authors of the various designs being disclosed, thereby defeating the very purpose of the jury of award.

In arriving at a joint conclusion, the division of labor will follow natural lines: the architect, from his long and varied experience, will critically observe the artistic and technical side of the several productions; the librarian, by his training, study, and experience, will note if the practical library requirements have been successfully met; while the representative of the board of trustees will study the financial problem, examine the drawings, from the standpoint of the public, and, in general, see that the architect and librarian do not let their own pet notions run away with them.

After the pamphlet of instructions has been adopted by the trustees it is printed and distributed among architects generally, and, to attract broader attention, the fact of a competition may be advertised in local and architectural papers. There need be no fear of a dearth of competitors—and of the very best quality—if the conditions are satisfactory. It is not a case of "the more the merrier," for each additional competitor means at least eight different drawings.\*

The contest is now on in earnest, and there is nothing to do but wait patiently until the designs are presented and the result made known by the board of trustees.

When the "affair" is ended, the decision rendered, and the architect chosen, the trustees and librarian must possess that faith which is spoken of by Paul as "the substance of things hoped for, and the evidence of things not seen," for the architect is now supreme and his word is law.

It is understood that the selection of an architect means that he will work in accord and sympathy with the trustees, and not insist upon the substitution of a different design from the one decided upon at first. Such a departure is

rare in these days, though in the past (in other than library competitions) it has been known to occur.

If any changes are suggested the designs are carefully gone over by the architect in consultation with the advisory architect and the result submitted to the trustees for adoption or rejection. When the revised plans are at last accepted by the trustees no further alterations should be made, as the cost of any changes after the building contracts are awarded is out of proportion to the benefit obtained.

The next advance brings us to

#### 8: Award of contracts.

Advertisements, asking for bids, are inserted in the local papers and builders' journals for a specified time and special requests are made to well-known contractors to submit estimates.

The Newark advertisement reads as follows:

#### BOARD OF TRUSTEES—FREE PUBLIC LIBRARY.

Newark, N. J., April 8, 1898.

Sealed proposals will be received until 12 o'clock of May 16, 1898, at the office of the secretary, 16 West Park street, for all labor and materials required for the complete construction of the new Library Building on the property Nos. 3, 5, 7, 9, and 11 Washington street, Newark, N. J., according to plans prepared by Rankin & Kellogg, architects, 1024 Walnut street, Philadelphia.

The work comprehended therein will be subdivided into six contracts, composed of work specified under the various headings as follows, and bidders will submit their proposals accordingly, complying carefully with the requests for separate prices on certain changes:

Masonry contract includes: Excavation, stone work, marble, tile work and mosaic, cement work, brick work, fire-proof floors and partitions, terra cotta, steel and iron work (including skylights), and plastering.

Carpentry contract includes: Lumber and carpenter work, mill work (including interior finish), roofing and sheet metal work, painting and glazing, and hardware.

Plumbing contract includes: Plumbing and gas fitting.

Electrical contract includes: All electrical work, except elevators.

Heating contract includes: Heating and ventilation.

Elevator contract includes: Elevators and lifts.

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# THE STATISTICAL DEPARTMENT OF THE BOSTON PUBLIC LIBRARY.

*Workington C. Ford in 19th Report (1898) of Boston Public Library.*

THE general plan of this department was to constitute a working laboratory on social topics where the expert, the student, and the general reader might find the material they desire, and, if necessary, advice and guidance in the use of this material. The scheme must, therefore, cover two important divisions of each social question: the theory, as developed by the leading American and European writers, and the application, as recorded in the investigations of government bureaus, corporations, associated charities or individuals. If the entire range of sociology as now understood is to be adequately treated, the department must have collections on political economy in its widest sense, on political science both in theory and in history, and on statistics, which records and generalizes both economics and history.

The public library possesses large and valuable collections on economics and history, and an intelligent appreciation of this description of writings is clearly evidenced in the selection. Indeed, it is in some respects one of the best collections of its kind in this country, and it would be difficult to duplicate it within any reasonable time. This great and solid foundation is now being rapidly added to by the purchase of current works, and by securing such as are out of print with every opportunity offered.

As to the third division, statistics, which includes all forms of state activity, the principal subjects to be covered are:

## Vital statistics.

Commercial statistics, which comprises the means or agencies of transportation.

Labor statistics, which cannot overlook the statistics of production, whether agricultural or industrial.

Financial statistics, and all questions of banking, currency, and taxation.

State and private penal and charitable institutions.

It will be necessary to provide the material for a proper understanding of these subjects both in general and in detail. For the general, reference may be made to the condensed statements of economy issued by each of the leading countries in the form of handbooks or abstracts. I have received, in some cases, full sets of the statistical abstracts of the following countries: United States, United Kingdom, France, Germany, Italy, Belgium, Sweden, Finland, Switzerland, Netherlands, Japan, and India. And even where a country is not named in this list the most essential statistics as to commerce, population, railroads, telegraphs, and finance, may be learned from some of the abstracts, like that for "foreign countries" issued by the British government.

These abstracts are, however, too condensed to serve the purposes of the special student, and a vast and ever-increasing number of

official reports must be obtained for his needs. In the number and scope of these reports no two countries agree. It is safe to say that every leading bureau in a governmental department prepares and prints an annual report, which is supplemented by special reports, and by the labors of legislative commissions. It is often not enough to have the report alone; the debates of the house to which it is submitted, are useful or essential. In fact, there is hardly any limit to the issues of this description, and only unremitting vigilance will enable the library to keep abreast with them in a manner that will satisfy the demands of its readers.

In planning to fulfil the high purposes designed for this department I have laid down certain broad lines of action that may be briefly summarized:

1. All census returns, whether of the United States or of Asiatic countries, have been sought. Vital statistics have been more fully developed than any other branch of statistical science, and are more frequently called for.

2. In commerce the detailed annual returns of the four leading commercial and industrial nations of the world—the United States, the United Kingdom, France, and Germany—hold the first place of importance. Almost as necessary are those of Russia, Japan, China, and British India—covering the development of Asiatic trade, now so prominent among the world's problems. Canada and South America are of great interest commercially to the United States, and the trade of colonies and dependencies must prove suggestive in studying the future policy and growth in foreign trade of the United States. Even Africa, with its failures and successes in colonization, and its internal relations affecting the attitude of competing powers to one another, carries lessons that cannot be neglected. I have attempted to secure complete commercial returns of the principal nations, and am meeting with success.

This particular branch will attract, and is attracting, the attention of commercial and manufacturing bodies in this region. It is to be regretted that full replies cannot be given to every question, but this regret will become less as the collection of commercial statistics increases. Much assistance toward completing the wants of the department could be given by commercial bodies, were they to turn over to the library any works on commerce received and not immediately needed by their own members. The process of collecting and completing this will necessarily be a slow one; but the commercial interests of the port are of such importance that no effort should be spared to keep the records of the world's commerce to date and as full as circumstances will permit.

3. The problems of labor have many phases, no one of which should be passed over lightly. I have recently segregated the reports of the state bureaus of labor statistics, and of a total issue of more than 300 reports, this department possesses all but about 30; and even these wants are being made good by way of gift and exchanges. In foreign countries labor is rep-



resented in nearly all administrations, and the reports of labor departments or bureaus in Great Britain, France, Germany, Italy, and Austria are received in this library. This promises to constitute one of the most valuable divisions of this department, because of the many questions of daily life or state relations discussed in these reports.

To cover only the state reports on labor would be to pass over one of the most vital aspects of the labor problem, that which is usually described as socialism, but which takes so many forms that no one term will cover them. I am making a specialty of the proceedings of labor congresses, of socialist periodicals, and even of anarchist issues, believing that the statement of grievances and formulation of reforms by the workingmen themselves will be of future value in history and in economics.

4. The next subject is that of finance, and its importance cannot be exaggerated. At a time when all governments are facing deficient revenues and rapidly increasing demands on their treasuries, the discussion of taxation has come to the front and is exercising national as well as local taxing powers. The budgets of each great nation, and the legislative reports and debates on the budget propositions, the great financial institutions, state and private, and the movements in the leading money markets of the world find a place in this department for future reference. No questioner has been turned away unsatisfied in this line of inquiry, and yet much remains to be done towards obtaining the material that is pertinent and timely.

It will not be necessary to dwell upon the value of state and local reports on charities and correction. They record the results of an exercise of functions on the performance of which the very existence of the state depends. Too close attention cannot be given to this diseased aspect of society, and I have sought for the best products of treatment of social ills at home and abroad.

In pursuing these objects correspondence has been opened with experts and societies in the United States and in foreign countries, with a view to securing early notice of what is published on the various matters falling within this department. The response has been gratifying, and is proving its utility daily. These connections have been facilitated by the deposit in the public library of the collections of the American Statistical Association.

The transfer of these collections was not completed until January of this year; but the books and pamphlets, numbering about 5000, have been arranged, listed, and will be incorporated into the library as rapidly as time will permit. While there will be some duplication, yet the two collections complement one another in a very satisfactory manner. The public library was strong on economic writings of a general character, but weak in the results of economics applied in the administration of government; the statistical association was strong on this practical side, but almost wanting in theoretical works. Its most remarkable feature was the series of issues of foreign governments, long

since out of print and difficult to obtain. As an example of the disinterested zeal of one man—Dr. Edward Jarvis—the collection is notable; as a foundation on which to build for the future, it is a valuable accession to the public library.

Exchanges of duplicate material are now being made, and the statistical collection has been able thus to complete many of its deficiencies.

In recognition of this widening interest in public questions, and more especially in the foreign relations of the United States, the advantage of prompt service has been recognized. The best results will be attained by rather anticipating than following public inquiry. With this in view arrangements have been perfected by which the important state papers of the leading governments of Europe are sent to the library as soon as published, thus saving six weeks or more in the transmitting, by obviating the delay of formal orders from this side. German, French, Belgian, and English bills, reports, and debates have been brought under this system, which will be extended to other countries having direct or indirect relations with the policy, foreign intercourse or commerce of the United States. With the short trial already made of this system the results have justified the course taken, and must be better appreciated as the facilities offered to the public become better known. I may mention that the library, through this means, received early copies of the Treaty (Spanish) papers, the British Blue Book, and the French Yellow Book on the Fashoda incident, and the special Parliamentary reports on water gas, petroleum, and local taxation, all of which were called for soon after receipt. And that the system must prove of advantage as the public becomes more familiar with the facilities offered is shown by the fact of inquiries being made for documents of foreign governments, a knowledge of which was gained through cable press notices. It was extremely gratifying to be able to promise the document "in a few days," a promise that was fulfilled through the careful attention of the foreign agents of the library, acting under the general arrangement already described.

In the same line is the method adopted of giving notice to the public of the receipt of important or timely documents. I have been enabled to publish notices in the library bulletin within 10 days after the document listed has reached the library, without interfering with the regular process of the catalog department. I believe that so prompt notice cannot but be useful to the public.

This brings me to the relations such a department must bear to the general public. It is not to be denied that there has in late years been an increasing attention paid to economic and political studies. This attention has been made necessary by the ever-increasing complexity of our social relations, as well among ourselves as with other peoples. The universities and high schools have special departments for teaching these questions, and the

designs until the selection is definitely made by the board, and even then it is doubtful if any good end is attained. Such exhibition often leads to endless newspaper discussion, and, through injudicious remarks of friends, to the identity of the authors of the various designs being disclosed, thereby defeating the very purpose of the jury of award.

In arriving at a joint conclusion, the division of labor will follow natural lines: the architect, from his long and varied experience, will critically observe the artistic and technical side of the several productions; the librarian, by his training, study, and experience, will note if the practical library requirements have been successfully met; while the representative of the board of trustees will study the financial problem, examine the drawings, from the standpoint of the public, and, in general, see that the architect and librarian do not let their own pet notions run away with them.

After the pamphlet of instructions has been adopted by the trustees it is printed and distributed among architects generally, and, to attract broader attention, the fact of a competition may be advertised in local and architectural papers. There need be no fear of a dearth of competitors—and of the very best quality—if the conditions are satisfactory. It is not a case of "the more the merrier," for each additional competitor means at least eight different drawings.\*

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The next advance brings us to

#### 8: Award of contracts.

Advertisements, asking for bids, are inserted in the local papers and builders' journals for a specified time and special requests are made to well-known contractors to submit estimates.

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The work comprehended therein will be subdivided into six contracts, composed of work specified under the various headings as follows, and bidders will submit their proposals accordingly, complying carefully with the requests for separate prices on certain changes:

Masonry contract includes: Excavation, stone work, marble, tile work and mosaic, cement work, brick work, fire-proof floors and partitions, terra cotta, steel and iron work (including skylights), and plastering.

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But all things come to an end, and even a library building is completed after a time.

Finally, the conditions have all been complied with and the contracts filled. The last bit of work is done; the carpenters, masons, and decorators have gone; the building is finished and ready for occupancy. Plans for moving from the old to the new quarters have been prepared, contemplated changes in staff scheduled, and the dedicatory exercises determined upon. The real test is soon to be made — the building must yet prove that the right model has been obtained. Even with detailed care and attention it is possible something has been left undone, or something done that ought not to be done. The trustees, architects, artisans, and librarian, if they have been exacting of themselves, may not be entirely satisfied with the plan as worked out.

Nevertheless, it is to be hoped, when all the preliminaries have been faithfully observed, and the building is completed, it will meet the approval of the public architecturally — for it is as a thing of beauty that the average citizen will view it; that it will appeal to the architect as a creation of his hands and brain, and to the trustees for usefulness. The librarian must join with Paul in saying, "I have learned in whatsoever state I am, therewith to be content."

\* The cost to the contractor is usually about \$10 per set, with the understanding that the plans are to be returned to the architects.

\* It is taken for granted that the board has reserved the right to reject any or all bids.

designs until the selection is definitely made by the board, and even then it is doubtful if any good end is attained. Such exhibition often leads to endless newspaper discussion, and, through injudicious remarks of friends, to the identity of the authors of the various designs being disclosed, thereby defeating the very purpose of the jury of award.

In arriving at a joint conclusion, the division of labor will follow natural lines: the architect, from his long and varied experience, will critically observe the artistic and technical side of the several productions; the librarian, by his training, study, and experience, will note if the practical library requirements have been successfully met; while the representative of the board of trustees will study the financial problem, examine the drawings, from the standpoint of the public, and, in general, see that the architect and librarian do not let their own pet notions run away with them.

After the pamphlet of instructions has been adopted by the trustees it is printed and distributed among architects generally, and, to attract broader attention, the fact of a competition may be advertised in local and architectural papers. There need be no fear of a dearth of competitors—and of the very best quality—if the conditions are satisfactory. It is not a case of "the more the merrier," for each additional competitor means at least eight different drawings.\*

The contest is now on in earnest, and there is nothing to do but wait patiently until the designs are presented and the result made known by the board of trustees.

When the "affair" is ended, the decision rendered, and the architect chosen, the trustees and librarian must possess that faith which is spoken of by Paul as "the substance of things hoped for, and the evidence of things not seen," for the architect is now supreme and his word is law.

It is understood that the selection of an architect means that he will work in accord and sympathy with the trustees, and not insist upon the substitution of a different design from the one decided upon at first. Such a departure is

rare in these days, though in the past (in other than library competitions) it has been known to occur.

If any changes are suggested the designs are carefully gone over by the architect in consultation with the advisory architect and the result submitted to the trustees for adoption or rejection. When the revised plans are at last accepted by the trustees no further alterations should be made, as the cost of any changes after the building contracts are awarded is out of proportion to the benefit obtained.

The next advance brings us to

#### 8: Award of contracts.

Advertisements, asking for bids, are inserted in the local papers and builders' journals for a specified time and special requests are made to well-known contractors to submit estimates.

The Newark advertisement reads as follows:

#### BOARD OF TRUSTEES—FREE PUBLIC LIBRARY.

Newark, N. J., April 8, 1898.

Sealed proposals will be received until 12 o'clock of May 16, 1898, at the office of the secretary, 16 West Park street, for all labor and materials required for the complete construction of the new Library Building on the property Nos. 3, 5, 7, 9, and 11 Washington street, Newark, N. J., according to plans prepared by Rankin & Kellogg, architects, 1024 Walnut street, Philadelphia.

The work comprehended therein will be subdivided into six contracts, composed of work specified under the various headings as follows, and bidders will submit their proposals accordingly, complying carefully with the requests for separate prices on certain changes:

Masonry contract includes: Excavation, stone work, marble, tile work and mosaic, cement work, brick work, fire-proof floors and partitions, terra cotta, steel and iron work (including skylights), and plastering.

Carpentry contract includes: Lumber and carpenter work, mill work (including interior finish), roofing and sheet metal work, painting and glazing, and hardware.

Plumbing contract includes: Plumbing and gas fitting.

Electrical contract includes: All electrical work, except elevators.

Heating contract includes: Heating and ventilation.

Elevator contract includes: Elevators and lifts.

Only bids which include the whole of the work comprehended in each subdivision will be considered.

The right is reserved to reject any or all bids and to waive any defect or informality in any bid, should it be deemed to the interest of the board of trustees to do so.

No bids will be considered except from parties experienced in this line or class of work and having the proper facilities and financial standing to properly execute the work.

Successful bidders will be required to furnish satisfactory bond in a sum equal to one-half the amount of their contract, binding them to the faithful performance of the same.

Drawings and specifications may be seen at the present Library Building, West Park street, Newark, N. J., and at the office of the architects, 1024 Walnut street, Philadelphia, Pa. Bidders desiring the exclusive use of one

\* The number of designs and drawings in six leading competitions were as follows:

	Designs.	Drawings.
N. Y. P. L. (1st competition).....	88	792
N. Y. P. L. (2d " ).....	12	120
Milwaukee P. L. ....	78	624
Providence P. L. ....	9	63
Jersey City F. L. ....	54	324
Washington P. L. ....	26	182
Newark F. P. L. ....	38	304

or more sets of blue-prints and specifications can obtain the same from the architects at the cost of duplication, if ordered prior to April 27, 1898, the said blue-prints and specifications to remain the property of the architects, to be used for estimating purposes only, and to be returned with proposal.

Bidders will furnish in their proposals lists of the sub-contractors they propose to use, and the board of trustees expressly reserves the right to require such changes in these lists before the execution of contracts as may be necessary to make the sub-contractors satisfactory to the said board.

All proposals to be accompanied by the consent, in writing, of two sureties who shall, at the time of submitting such proposals, qualify as to their responsibility in the amount of such proposal, and bind themselves that, in the event of the contract being awarded to the person or persons making the proposal, and the said person or persons shall omit or refuse to execute such contract, they will pay to the said board of trustees a sum equal to the difference between the said proposal and that of the next lowest responsible bidder or bidders by whom such contract shall be executed. The board of trustees will also receive as surety a reliable company duly authorized to do business by law in the State of New Jersey, to execute such bond as surety.

All proposals and bonds to be on the forms provided for the purpose, copies of which may be had at the office of the secretary, West Park street, Newark, N. J., or at the office of the architects, 1024 Walnut street, Philadelphia.

By order of the board of trustees, Free Public Library, Newark, N. J.

JAMES M. SEYMOUR, President.

FRANK P. HILL, Secretary.

Bidding is sometimes restricted to local men, but the rivalry is keener if "outsiders" are permitted to enter. It is needless to observe that these foreign contractors should be given as fair chance as the local bidders.

Several sets of plans should be placed on exhibition in a commodious and centrally located room, where they can be seen and used by bidders, and it would be convenient to have a few copies to loan to any who might wish to consult them at their own office for a few days. The larger contractors usually prefer to pay the architects for the use of blue-prints, so that they may have all the time possible to complete their estimates.\*

The next exciting step is taken when the bids are received and opened. It is manifestly fair and reasonable that this should be done publicly. A room large enough to accommodate the bidders is secured, and at the appointed hour the interested parties meet to ascertain the result. The contract is not always awarded at the time the bids are opened, particularly if

bids are received for separate portions of the job; time is needed to satisfactorily tabulate and compare the returns.

There are three ways of estimating: 1, For the whole work. 2, For a division like carpentry, masonry, heating, etc. 3, For many minor portions. If contractors have been permitted to submit bids in several forms it is for the trustees to decide which is the most advantageous to accept.\* When possible it is well to include in the contract a penalty for not finishing the building on a certain date, but in some states the law does not permit the insertion of such a clause unless the contractor is paid the same amount per day in case he finishes ahead of time.

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## THE STATISTICAL DEPARTMENT OF THE BOSTON PUBLIC LIBRARY.

*Worthington C. Ford in 47th Report (1898) of Boston  
Public Library.*

The general plan of this department was to constitute a working laboratory on social topics where the expert, the student, and the general reader might find the material they desire, and, if necessary, advice and guidance in the use of this material. The scheme must, therefore, cover two important divisions of each social question: the theory, as developed by the leading American and European writers, and the application, as recorded in the investigations of government bureaus, corporations, associated charities or individuals. If the entire range of sociology as now understood is to be adequately treated, the department must have collections on political economy in its widest sense, on political science both in theory and in history, and on statistics, which records and generalizes both economics and history.

The public library possesses large and valuable collections on economics and history, and an intelligent appreciation of this description of writings is clearly evidenced in the selection. Indeed, it is in some respects one of the best collections of its kind in this country, and it would be difficult to duplicate it within any reasonable time. This great and solid foundation is now being rapidly added to by the purchase of current works, and by securing such as are out of print with every opportunity offered.

As to the third division, statistics, which includes all forms of state activity, the principal subjects to be covered are:

### Vital statistics.

Commercial statistics, which comprises the means or agencies of transportation.

Labor statistics, which cannot overlook the statistics of production, whether agricultural or industrial.

Financial statistics, and all questions of banking, currency, and taxation.

State and private penal and charitable institutions.

It will be necessary to provide the material for a proper understanding of these subjects both in general and in detail. For the general, reference may be made to the condensed statements of economy issued by each of the leading countries in the form of handbooks or abstracts. I have received, in some cases, full sets of the statistical abstracts of the following countries: United States, United Kingdom, France, Germany, Italy, Belgium, Sweden, Finland, Switzerland, Netherlands, Japan, and India. And even where a country is not named in this list the most essential statistics as to commerce, population, railroads, telegraphs, and finance, may be learned from some of the abstracts, like that for "foreign countries" issued by the British government.

These abstracts are, however, too condensed to serve the purposes of the special student, and a vast and ever-increasing number of

official reports must be obtained for his needs. In the number and scope of these reports no two countries agree. It is safe to say that every leading bureau in a governmental department prepares and prints an annual report, which is supplemented by special reports, and by the labors of legislative commissions. It is often not enough to have the report alone; the debates of the house to which it is submitted, are useful or essential. In fact, there is hardly any limit to the issues of this description, and only unremitting vigilance will enable the library to keep abreast with them in a manner that will satisfy the demands of its readers.

In planning to fulfil the high purposes designed for this department I have laid down certain broad lines of action that may be briefly summarized:

1. All census returns, whether of the United States or of Asiatic countries, have been sought. Vital statistics have been more fully developed than any other branch of statistical science, and are more frequently called for.

2. In commerce the detailed annual returns of the four leading commercial and industrial nations of the world—the United States, the United Kingdom, France, and Germany—hold the first place of importance. Almost as necessary are those of Russia, Japan, China, and British India—covering the development of Asiatic trade, now so prominent among the world's problems. Canada and South America are of great interest commercially to the United States, and the trade of colonies and dependencies must prove suggestive in studying the future policy and growth in foreign trade of the United States. Even Africa, with its failures and successes in colonization, and its internal relations affecting the attitude of competing powers to one another, carries lessons that cannot be neglected. I have attempted to secure complete commercial returns of the principal nations, and am meeting with success.

This particular branch will attract, and is attracting, the attention of commercial and manufacturing bodies in this region. It is to be regretted that full replies cannot be given to every question, but this regret will become less as the collection of commercial statistics increases. Much assistance toward completing the wants of the department could be given by commercial bodies, were they to turn over to the library any works on commerce received and not immediately needed by their own members. The process of collecting and completing this will necessarily be a slow one; but the commercial interests of the port are of such importance that no effort should be spared to keep the records of the world's commerce to date and as full as circumstances will permit.

3. The problems of labor have many phases, no one of which should be passed over lightly. I have recently segregated the reports of the state bureaus of labor statistics, and of a total issue of more than 300 reports, this department possesses all but about 30; and even these wants are being made good by way of gift and exchanges. In foreign countries labor is rep-



resented in nearly all administrations, and the reports of labor departments or bureaus in Great Britain, France, Germany, Italy, and Austria are received in this library. This promises to constitute one of the most valuable divisions of this department, because of the many questions of daily life or state relations discussed in these reports.

To cover only the state reports on labor would be to pass over one of the most vital aspects of the labor problem, that which is usually described as socialism, but which takes so many forms that no one term will cover them. I am making a specialty of the proceedings of labor congresses, of socialist periodicals, and even of anarchist issues, believing that the statement of grievances and formulation of reforms by the workmen themselves will be of future value in history and in economics.

4. The next subject is that of finance, and its importance cannot be exaggerated. At a time when all governments are facing deficient revenues and rapidly increasing demands on their treasuries, the discussion of taxation has come to the front and is exercising national as well as local taxing powers. The budgets of each great nation, and the legislative reports and debates on the budget propositions, the great financial institutions, state and private, and the movements in the leading money markets of the world find a place in this department for future reference. No questioner has been turned away unsatisfied in this line of inquiry, and yet much remains to be done towards obtaining the material that is pertinent and timely.

It will not be necessary to dwell upon the value of state and local reports on charities and correction. They record the results of an exercise of functions on the performance of which the very existence of the state depends. Too close attention cannot be given to this diseased aspect of society, and I have sought for the best products of treatment of social ills at home and abroad.

In pursuing these objects correspondence has been opened with experts and societies in the United States and in foreign countries, with a view to securing early notice of what is published on the various matters falling within this department. The response has been gratifying, and is proving its utility daily. These connections have been facilitated by the deposit in the public library of the collections of the American Statistical Association.

The transfer of these collections was not completed until January of this year; but the books and pamphlets, numbering about 5000, have been arranged, listed, and will be incorporated into the library as rapidly as time will permit. While there will be some duplication, yet the two collections complement one another in a very satisfactory manner. The public library was strong on economic writings of a general character, but weak in the results of economics applied in the administration of government; the statistical association was strong on this practical side, but almost wanting in theoretical works. Its most remarkable feature was the series of issues of foreign governments, long

since out of print and difficult to obtain. As an example of the disinterested zeal of one man—Dr. Edward Jarvis—the collection is notable; as a foundation on which to build for the future, it is a valuable accession to the public library.

Exchanges of duplicate material are now being made, and the statistical collection has been able thus to complete many of its deficiencies.

In recognition of this widening interest in public questions, and more especially in the foreign relations of the United States, the advantage of prompt service has been recognized. The best results will be attained by rather anticipating than following public inquiry. With this in view arrangements have been perfected by which the important state papers of the leading governments of Europe are sent to the library as soon as published, thus saving six weeks or more in the transmitting, by obviating the delay of formal orders from this side. German, French, Belgian, and English bills, reports, and debates have been brought under this system, which will be extended to other countries having direct or indirect relations with the policy, foreign intercourse or commerce of the United States. With the short trial already made of this system the results have justified the course taken, and must be better appreciated as the facilities offered to the public become better known. I may mention that the library, through this means, received early copies of the Treaty (Spanish) papers, the British Blue Book, and the French Yellow Book on the Fashoda incident, and the special Parliamentary reports on water gas, petroleum, and local taxation, all of which were called for soon after receipt. And that the system must prove of advantage as the public becomes more familiar with the facilities offered is shown by the fact of inquiries being made for documents of foreign governments, a knowledge of which was gained through cable press notices. It was extremely gratifying to be able to promise the document "in a few days," a promise that was fulfilled through the careful attention of the foreign agents of the library, acting under the general arrangement already described.

In the same line is the method adopted of giving notice to the public of the receipt of important or timely documents. I have been enabled to publish notices in the library bulletin within 10 days after the document listed has reached the library, without interfering with the regular process of the catalog department. I believe that so prompt notice cannot but be useful to the public.

This brings me to the relations such a department must bear to the general public. It is not to be denied that there has in late years been an increasing attention paid to economic and political studies. This attention has been made necessary by the ever-increasing complexity of our social relations, as well among ourselves as with other peoples. The universities and high schools have special departments for teaching these questions, and the

need of a special department in this library, to contain the works necessary for applying, encouraging, and continuing these studies, has been impressed upon the trustees and librarian. I need hardly enumerate the subjects lately coming before this city government for some settlement: the expenditures and revenues; the relations to the city of corporations using the streets; questions of public health and safety; and the proper statistical records of municipal activity. In the state, the problem of taxation is ever present, with its perplexing difficulties of assessments and valuation of real and personal property; while the many corporate and state institutions under its control call for an intelligent regulation as well as a high degree of practical ability. In national affairs there are also matters of finance of extreme importance, and the increasing demands of government for power to enter upon new areas of state action call for the highest exercise of the intelligence and practical faculties. To undertake to deal with such problems in ignorance is to invite disaster; and it is only the highest ability that can hope to master their intricacies and point out the proper solution.

To another rising study this department must give support and direction — I refer to the study of commercial geography. The mere boundaries of a country, the names of its capital and leading cities, rivers, and mountains, convey no real meaning to the child's mind, and much less can they satisfy the more matured student. The climate and productions of the region, the mineral wealth and the products for home consumption or foreign trade, the manufacturing industries and the great commercial roads leading to or through it, the general habits of the people in food and clothing, and the form and supply of labor available — these are a few of the leading topics that present themselves in an attempt to gain even a superficial conception of what a country or a region implies. The prevailing feverish eagerness to penetrate into new and undescribed regions enforces such a study, and in the intense competition for colonial dependencies or protectorates it will be the people having the most intelligent mastery of needs and resources that will win the highest rewards. In Africa, in Asia, and in South America, commerce is being pushed as never before, and vast territories, thought a short time since to be doomed by climate and unattractiveness to lie waste for many generations, are being subdued by labor, made accessible by railroads, and subjected to organized administrations designed to develop their possibilities in surface culture or in mineral wealth.

A special feature of the department will be the large number of collections designed to give what is known of these undeveloped regions of the earth, and what is being done to make them better known. The proceedings of geographical societies are valuable for general descriptions; the accounts of travellers add to these more special information. The most valuable sources are, however, the reports of the consular service throughout the world, for they are governed by certain features that make

them highly instructive. They are, as a rule, prepared by men trained in commerce; they are designed to picture the actual movements of trade, and compiled from year to year offer a consecutive record of the transactions at each port where a consular officer may be stationed; they reflect the spirit of the commercial "drummer," who seeks to study the wants of the market, and examines them in the light of the home industries and their ability to supply what is wanted, in competition with rivals for the trade. A consular report is thus a record of the actual, and a suggestion for the possible, and usually cast in such a form as to illuminate the habits, aptitudes, and necessities of the people at or near the port of commerce. I have, therefore, sought to obtain, and promptly, what is being reported by the consular services of the respective countries, and there are on file the following: American, German, British, French, Austrian, and Italian.

To accomplish the best objects, certain modifications must be introduced in the library arrangements. The classification adopted for the collections of this department is on the decimal plan (Dewey's system), modified by such changes as the special nature of the book suggests. After much consideration this was deemed the best course to pursue, and its elasticity commends itself in use. In a general collection, where the reader knows what is wanted, the fixed position of the shelf, without regard or with little regard to subject-matter, may have its advantages. But in a special collection, where the questions are often vague and usually general, the classification by subject becomes almost a necessity. The end to be attained is the grouping of the records of one line of governmental experience, which may be found promptly, consulted easily, and offer facilities for comparing results of different peoples and countries. So far as it has been tested, the system has proved satisfactory.

While such classification will be of great assistance to both reader and department, special lists will still further make the material known and available. Much of the best statistical work is published in government reports, or periodicals, and is easily overlooked in a general survey. Some accessible record is needed to refresh the memory or direct the attention of the investigator. I have undertaken to prepare a catalog of the English Parliamentary Papers for recent years, and have in process a catalog of the United States Congressional publications. I hope to carry the idea further into practice by noting any important article on a social topic in the leading reviews and financial journals, so that the inquirer may be provided with the latest and selected utterances or records by experts upon his specialty. Without undertaking to create original research, or to influence judgment, every effort will be made to encourage study. The highest function of the department must be to have ready at hand the material for all who may apply. I may add that the number of the inquirers is daily increasing, and their questions cover a wide range.

# BINDING RULES AND SPECIFICATIONS FOR NEW YORK STATE LIBRARY.

*From Director's Report, N. Y. State Library, 1898.*

## COLOR.

Use the following colors in binding books in the various languages:

light brown	American
dark brown	English
black	German
dark blue	other Teutonic
red	French
maroon	Italian
olive	Spanish
light green	Latin
dark green	Greek
light blue	other Indo-European
yellow	Semitic
light drab	other languages

Bind dictionaries in language color of definition.

Bind double dictionaries of English and another language in English color, e.g. bind German-English and English-German in dark brown.

Bind American editions of English books in American color and English editions of American books in English color.

Bind translations and annotated literary works in language color of notes or translation.

## STYLE.

Bind books not much used in cloth. Bind all others, except very large books, in half turkey morocco. Bind extra large books in half duck. Use American Russia for law books in place of law sheep.

## LETTERING.

Letter author's surname in top panel. Give initials of authors where there is danger of confusing with better known author of same surname.

Letter title in second panel.

Letter editor, if needed, in third panel.

Letter volume number in large arabic figures in fourth panel, e.g. 12 not Vol. 12.

Letter year, number of volume from beginning of set, number of series and volume of series in the following form:

1883	1880-84	not 2 series { 1, 2, 3, 4, 5
298	5-9	
SERIES 2	SERIES 2	
14	1-5	

In bottom panel, letter call number at top of panel, and N. Y. State Library at bottom. In oversize books, put call number at top of upper panel.

Letter two books bound together, with author of first book in top panel and its title in second panel; in third panel, letter author and title of the second book.

## SERIALS.

Bind all covers of pamphlets and magazines and all advertising leaves in regular order, unless distinctly directed to omit them. Put title-page and contents at the beginning, and index

at the end, unless clearly paged to go elsewhere. If one number makes a volume leave title-page and contents inside the covers.

Where two separate paginations are in the same covers keep each pagination together, putting all front covers and advertising leaves with the first, and all back covers and advertising leaves with the second pagination.

If plates are bound separately, bind covers and advertising leaves with text.

Bind all index volumes separately, if covering several volumes.

Bind separate reports by decades, e.g. 1870-79, 1880-89, unless too thick, when bind together the reports for five years, e.g. 1870-74, 1875-79, etc.

## SEWING.

After they are taken apart, collate all books carefully. Without special instructions, bind only perfect books.

Mend tears with transparent adhesive paper.

Use Hayes Irish linen thread.

Do not saw backs deeply.

Sew on soft twine (or on tapes when so instructed).

Use four-ply for all books under 35 cm.; for folios and over, use five-ply.

Sew every volume larger than a duodecimo on at least three bands; sew a quarto on four bands, or on five when extra thick.

Overcast first and last signature.

Sew "all along" when possible without using too small thread. Regulate size of thread so as not to swell the back. Thread must encircle each band.

Mount thick or double plates on guards. Folding maps, etc., must be backed or jointed with muslin when so instructed.

## FORWARDING.

Cut books as little as possible. Do not cut manuscript, maps, etc. Do not trim rebound books without special instructions.

Without thinning or scraping lace each band into boards, first cutting a groove for band in each board to prevent its cutting off in "knocking down."

Use Davey's medium tar board.

Use marbled paper linings and sides on half work. Use granite paper on cloth.

Use vellum corners covered by paper sides.

On all leather and half duck work use only tight backs.

## FINISHING.

Use only most usual form of roman capitals and arabic numerals.

Never use roman numerals, German, old English, or other fancy type. Omit punctuation except when needed to avoid ambiguity.

Omit all tooling on backs except plain gilt cross lines.

Put plain gilt fillet at edge of morocco.

Burnish tops. Do not sprinkle edges.

Do not use false raised bands.

Use silk head bands in bright colors on leather work.

Letter on the back. Never letter on labels without special instructions.

## PUBLIC NOTICE OF POOR EDITIONS.

IN view of the poor editions of many of the more popular authors, and the difficulty in keeping the volumes in condition for circulation, Mr. H. J. Carr, of the Scranton Public Library, has decided to insert in the catalogs and bulletins of that library the following notice:

"Because of the needless use of inferior paper, poor or worn-out type, and flimsy binding, publishers have in a degree made it impracticable for public libraries to continue the supply of certain books ordinarily in popular demand.

"Therefore, until the future issue of editions suitable and satisfactory for library purposes, works of the following named authors must be omitted from the stock and lists of this library":

A similar notice may also be inserted in the card catalog, immediately preceding the names of the authors in question.

This plan follows Mr. Crunden's suggestion in the March number of the JOURNAL, and it has probably been adopted in other libraries.

## POORLY BOUND BOOKS.

*From the 19th Report of the Puoria (Ill.) Public Library.*

THAT after some months of hard wear we should have to rebind a popular 12mo novel is not surprising, we expect it; but we ought not to have to rebind large and costly octavos and quartos after only half a dozen handlings—books bearing the imprint of old and reputable houses, beautiful to look at, but cheaply put together.

"Rip Van Winkle, as played by Joseph Jefferson," a \$5 octavo, stood nine issues before falling to pieces; Dean Worcester's "Philippine Islands," 530 octavo pages, \$4, stood eight issues; Hobson's "Sinking of the *Merri-mac*" stood six; "Miss America" three; Landor's "In the forbidden land," a sumptuously printed and illustrated octavo in two volumes, \$9, is a still more striking example of how a heavy volume should not be bound, at least not for a public library. Vol. I. has 307 pages of letter-press, besides title-page, contents, introduction, and a number of full-page illustrations, some 380 pages altogether. It is printed on the heaviest, double thick, enamelled paper, on a 32-page form, and weighs 3¼ pounds—a very heavy book. Each sheet, and consequently each section or signature into which the sheet is folded for binding, is, therefore, four times as thick and heavy as the sections of so large a book should be. There are only 12 sections to the book, when there should have been 30 to make the book bind well. In putting the book together, section by section, each of these thick sections should have been sewed "all along" to its adjoining section with strong linen thread, Hayes three-ply no. 16, and over tapes or bands laid across or sawn into the back, but nothing of this sort was done. There are no bands. The thread is of the slenderest, and the sewing is apparently by machine. Now, to this loosely put together body of the book a case-made cover is attached by gluing

a flimsy strip of cheese cloth or super over the rounded back of the book, the edges of the same, an inch wide, being pasted or glued on to the board covers. Excepting a strip of paper, this open woven cheese cloth is all that makes the joint to hold book and cover together, which the least careless handling, dropping the book on the floor, would be likely to tear apart. Both volumes are now in the bindery, fallen in pieces after seven issues. If we could not, even with such unwieldy sections, bind them better, they would be in the bindery half the time and we should be compelled to keep a double supply on hand.

I am not unaware of the presumable reason for using the extremely thick enamelled paper—to produce a better effect with half-tone pictures; and, just possibly, lacking matter enough to make a big book, the literary shortage was made good by the help of more wood pulp; but if the use of the heavy paper had been limited to the full-page inserted illustrations, as is done in *Harper's Magazine*, and a thinner paper used for the letter press work, with 12 or 16 page sections instead of 32, and with honest sewing and forwarding, this attractive looking work would not have been so suggestive of having been made only to sell. Books got up in this style should be supplied to libraries in sheets or in paper covers unbound, and at a lower price, leaving the libraries to bind them to suit their especial needs.

## THE NEWBERRY BLUE-PRINT CATALOG

THE Newberry Library, Chicago, has published a first volume of the ingenious and interesting blue-print catalog of British Museum accessions, devised by A. J. Rudolph and described by him in the LIBRARY JOURNAL, March, 1899 (p. 102). This catalog makes a handsome folio volume of 457 pages, two numbered columns to the page, substantially bound in half leather. It covers the subject Academies, and consists of a main or author division, in which entries are arranged in alphabetic order by places, and a useful index to societies and subjects, which has been cleverly devised by making typewritten "copy" which has been reproduced by the blue-print process; in the index reference is made to the number of the column in the main division. The volume is light for its size, and easily consulted. The blue-print pages are clear, and only a few blurred entries are noticeable. Indeed the curious volume seems to represent careful and painstaking work, and to promise good results in the application of this process along other lines for purposes of reproduction. It should have threefold interest: as an example of the practicability of Mr. Rudolph's process; as a guide to a mass of valuable material; and as an interesting partial bibliography of society or other serial publications. But 10 copies of this first volume have been printed, and it is pointed out that subscriptions by a few large libraries will aid in carrying through enterprises on these lines.

### A LIST OF CHILDREN'S BOOKS WITH CHILDREN'S ANNOTATIONS.

LIBRARIANS and their assistants who are interested in the subject of children's reading are invited to co-operate in the compilation of a list of children's books annotated with children's comments. A comparison of experiences concerning the books children of different libraries are reading and have read, and what the children think about the book, will, it is hoped, do much to advance the cause of children's reading.

The work of editing the list will be undertaken by Miss Hewins, of the Hartford Public Library, and Miss Moore, of the children's department of the Pratt Institute Free Library. It will greatly facilitate the work of the editors if slips of uniform size be used. A shelf list slip is the size which has been adopted, and the form is as follows:

TITLE	AUTHOR
Captains courageous	Kipling
<i>Comment</i>	

<p>I liked it but I think it's more of a book for grown people than for boys; there isn't <i>boy</i> enough</p> <p>Age 11</p> <p>Sex Boy</p> <p>Nationality Scotch-Amer.</p>	<p><i>Remarks</i> Son of a naval officer; delicate yet fond of sports. Great reader.]</p>
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It is desirable to have the information as correct and as full as possible, but the matter of first importance is the spontaneous comment of the child.

Do not hesitate to send a number of comments on the same book, and do not withhold comments for the sake of some point of detail.

Material for the list may be sent to Miss A. C. Moore, Pratt Institute Free Library, Brooklyn, N.Y., and will be received up to June, 1900.

### LINCOLN (NEB.) CITY LIBRARY DESTROYED BY FIRE.

THE City Library of Lincoln, Neb., was totally destroyed by fire on the morning of Sept. 16. The fire broke out in a printing establishment in the North Block, next to the Masonic Temple building, in which the library was located, and spread to the Masonic Temple, the Methodist church, and other buildings. The total loss caused by the fire was estimated at \$500,000.

The library contained about 15,000 v., and was insured for \$6000. "This," writes Miss Dennis, the librarian, "will aid us in starting a new library, but it will be a long time before a library similar to the old one is established."

A special meeting of the library board was held on the day after the fire. It was decided that a new library should be organized as promptly as possible, and in accord with the latest principles of library administration. Temporary quarters will be established, and the work of book selection and purchase, so far as the insurance money allows, will be promptly taken up. A committee was appointed to consider the matter of securing suitable permanent quarters. Miss Dennis and Miss Sara Burrows were continued in their former positions to carry on the reorganizing, selection, and cata-

logging necessary, but it was decided to dispense with other assistance until the library should be reopened. The work of selection will be aided by the fact that the library catalogs were saved by Miss Burrows, who reached the building when the fire was beyond control, but pluckily entered the library rooms and secured the volumes.

Miss Dennis, the librarian, was graduated from the Pratt Institute Library School, in the second-year course, in June of this year. During her absence Miss Burrows had been acting librarian.

### THE JERSEY CITY PUBLIC LIBRARY BUILDING.

WORK on the new building for the Free Public Library of Jersey City, which, after occupying hired rooms since its opening, July, 1891, is at last to have a building of its own, was commenced about four months since, the corner stone being laid by the mayor without ceremonies on Aug. 16. Since the foundations were finished the work has been pushed forward very rapidly; at present the outer walls and partitions have reached one story in height and the iron work of the second story is well in place. The architects, chosen in competition, are Brite & Bacon, of New York, and the contract was awarded in competition to Norcross Bros.

Good judgment has been shown in the selection of the location; not only is it in the best part of lower Jersey City (opposite Van Vorst Park), but it is central and easy of access. The main frontage is on Jersey avenue, the library occupying the entire block between Montgomery and Mercer streets, a distance of 200 feet. The depth of the lot is 50 feet, and an addition 50 x 30 feet extends from the rear. The whole area of the lot is about 11,300 square feet.

The style of the building is Renaissance; the materials, light brick with granite trimmings; the height, three stories and a roof story. It will be a handsome and dignified structure, convenient and well suited to library uses. The main entrance is to be on Jersey avenue; smaller entrances are on Montgomery and Mercer streets. Windows on every side assure a sufficiency of light. The special needs of the library, together with the peculiar shape of the lot, have determined to a great extent the interior arrangements, which will be much as follows: The ground floor will have a newspaper reading-room on Montgomery street, a bindery and a station delivery on Mercer street, the space between these being occupied by the vestibule, spacious corridors and stairways, and rooms for minor purposes. The second or main floor will contain a large periodical reading-room on Montgomery street, a reading-room for women, the delivery-room with card catalog-room adjoining, and the librarian's offices in the central part of the building; while the Mercer street side will be occupied by a well-lighted room for cataloging, and one for general work. The third or reference floor will contain two large rooms for children (a reading and a reference

room), located at the extreme Montgomery street end; on the Mercer street side will be a large and finely finished reference-room solely for adult use, with four study-rooms or alcoves adjoining. On this floor also are rooms for the trustees and for the assistant librarian.

From the nature and extent of the library's work with the young it was found necessary to locate the children's department on the floor with the other reference work, but it will be entirely separated, and will make a distinct department.

The fourth or roof story when finished will be devoted to a lecture-room and an art-room with museum.

Shelving for about 150,000 volumes will be provided mainly by the stacks, which are to occupy the extension. They are to be seven stories in height and can be carried higher whenever the need arises. The contract for these has been awarded to the Library Bureau.

The cost of the library, including site, will be in round numbers \$250,000. Towards this sum the board of finance of Jersey City has appropriated \$200,000; the remainder has by the strictest economy in management been saved from the library's annual income during the eight years of its existence.

The contract calls for the completion of the building on April 15, 1900, and it is confidently expected that the library will be settled in its new home by the first of May following.

#### NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF STATE LIBRARIANS.

THE second annual session of the National Association of State Librarians will be held in Indianapolis, Ind., Oct. 24 to 26, 1899. Five sessions will be held, the capitol being selected as the meeting-place. The program includes an address of welcome by Governor Mount, with response by A. H. Chase; short addresses by Judge Daniel Waite Howe and Jacob P. Dunn, of Indiana, and many papers.

The topics to be presented cover "Classification and cataloging in a state library," by C. B. Galbreath, of Ohio State Library; "Uniformity in exchange of state publications," by J. E. Brown, Georgia State Library; "What books should a state library aim to get," by G. H. Dodson, of Oklahoma Territorial Library; "Care and disposition of U. S. and state documents," by Dr. G. E. Reed, of Pennsylvania State Library; "What should be the scope of a bibliography of the state," by A. H. Chase, of New Hampshire State Library; "How far should the state library be a circulating library?" by Miss Thayer, of Illinois State Library; "Relation of the state library to the Library of Congress and to public libraries," by Mrs. Spencer, of Michigan State Library; "Politics in the state library," by C. A. Gainer, of Idaho State Library; "Newspapers, their relations to the documentary history of the state," by Miss Montgomery, of South Carolina State Library; "Indexing of documents and publications relating to state history," by H. C.

Buchanan, of New Jersey State Library; and "The management of a law library," by Miss Hardin, of Kentucky State Library.

The headquarters for the delegates will be at the Denison Hotel.

#### Library Association of the United Kingdom.

##### 22d ANNUAL MEETING.

THE 22d annual meeting of the Library Association of the United Kingdom was held in Manchester, Sept. 5-7, 1899. This was the second Manchester meeting in the history of the association, the first having been held in 1879, under the presidency of the late Rev. H. O. Coxe, of the Bodleian. The present invitation, like the previous one, was extended by the municipal authorities, and the conference was inaugurated on the evening of Sept. 4 with a reception tendered by the Lord Mayor and held in the town hall, which was largely attended.

The first business session was opened on Tuesday, Sept. 5, in the town hall, when the Lord Mayor officially welcomed the association to Manchester. A vote of thanks to the retiring president, the Earl of Crawford, was moved by Dr. Garnett, and seconded by Mr. Tedder; and Mr. James Southern, chairman of the Manchester Public Libraries committee, was then installed in the presidential chair, and proceeded to deliver his address. Mr. Southern said that he proposed to speak chiefly of the work of municipal libraries, and thought if one place more than another invited such a retrospect, it was the city of Manchester, where the first library under the act was established, where the system of municipal free libraries had been most largely developed, and where probably a greater number of volumes were issued each year than in any other city at home or abroad. He briefly reviewed the history of the free libraries act, referring to the services of Edwards and Ewart, and the library development of Great Britain and the Colonies within the past 40 years. The great advance in libraries dated, he pointed out, chiefly from the establishment of the L. A. U. K. in 1877, and the number of existing libraries were briefly noted. In conclusion, the president referred to the magnificent addition which was shortly to be made to the literary treasures of Manchester. The John Rylands Library, in which was incorporated the celebrated Althorp collection, would in itself make the city which possessed it a place of pilgrimage for the lovers of rare books.

Mr. J. J. Ogle, of Bootle, then read a paper on "Edwards and Ewart and the select committee of 1849 on public libraries," a subject which had been somewhat anticipated in the president's address. He said that, while Ewart was moving in Parliament for the establishment of libraries, Edwards was collecting statistics which bore fruit in papers published in 1847 and 1848. One of these brought about the co-operation between the two men which had resulted in the formation of public libraries

in nearly 400 communities. The initiative was Ewart's, who was the guiding head; the executive labor was Edwards's. Interesting quotations were given from some unpublished letters from Edwards to Ewart, and the paper concluded with a suggestion that a fund should be raised to erect a tombstone for Edwards's grave at Niton, Isle of Wight, and memorial tablets for Edwards in the Manchester and Ewart in the Liverpool public library.

Rev. W. E. Winks described "An attempt to solve the school library problem," as carried out at Cardiff, where the school board appropriated annual sums for the formation and maintenance of its own school libraries, which were managed through the public library. Books were exchanged once a year between the different schools, and only scholars who were regular in attendance were allowed the privileges of borrowing.

"The De Quincey collection in the Moss Side Public Library" was described by W. E. D. Axon, who pointed out that this was the only memorial of De Quincey that existed in his native district. C. W. Sutton, of Manchester, reviewed the "Special collections of books in Lancashire and Cheshire"; and B. H. Mullen, of Salford, dealt with the early history of public libraries in a paper on "Salford and the inauguration of the movement for free libraries," in which he ascribed to Joseph Brotherton, M.P. for Salford, and not to Ewart, chief credit for the library act of 1850. Several speakers took exceptions to Mr. Mullen's conclusions, and Mr. Welch, of the Guildhall Library, thought it was an indisputable fact that the City of London founded the first free library in the kingdom.

Alfred Lancaster, of St. Helen's, read a paper on "The provision of technical books in public libraries from the technical education fund," which was mainly an appeal for grants under the custom and excise act for such purposes; J. Ernest Phythian, of Manchester, dealt with "Librarian and reader," urging that the public library should be to the reader something more than a mere store of books, and that the librarian's duties should not be considered to end with the handing out of volumes, but should include co-operation with the National Home Reading Union, the University Extension system, and similar bodies; while the session was closed with a paper by J. R. Boosé, of the Royal Colonial Institute, on "The Colonies in relation to public libraries," suggesting that public libraries could engage in a work of national importance by awakening more general interest in and appreciation of the extent and resources of outlying parts of the empire.

In the evening the Corporation of Salford gave a reception and *conversations* at the museum and library in Peel Park in honor of the visit of the association.

On Wednesday morning the conference was resumed, with a paper by E. M. Borrajo, of the Guildhall Library, on "Books for the reference library," pleading for expert assistance, especially in the choice of scientific books. Specimen lists on special subjects were submitted by the

author, who urged that the publication of annual lists of books in the various fields of knowledge should be undertaken by the association. A discussion followed, which emphasized the difficulties found in acting upon the advice of experts, who are prone to differ much in their opinions, while librarians have to consider special and local requirements in selecting books.

Sir W. H. Bailey, of Salford, followed with a paper on "Ward club rooms," in which he advocated the establishment, in every ward in the poorer districts of a city, of reading-rooms which should practically be recreation-rooms for men and women. These should be freely supplied with newspapers and magazines, and small tables and games, also perhaps with such "reasonable refreshments" as tea, coffee, etc.; conversation and smoking should be permitted; provision might be made for a stage and for Sunday concerts, and it was suggested that the workingmen of the district be represented on the board. A discussion followed, mainly unfavorable, in which Councillor Plummer, of the Manchester Free Libraries committee, referred to the recreation-room of the Openshaw branch library; and W. H. R. Wright pointed out that libraries should not be expected to supply all these desirable adjuncts to a municipal institution out of funds provided for the purchase of books.

"The Concilium Bibliographicum at Zurich and its work" was the subject of a paper by W. E. Hoyle and Miss Nordlinger, of Owens College, devoted chiefly to an account of the card bibliography of current zoological literature issued under the direction of Dr. H. H. Field. W. R. Credland, of Manchester, had a paper on "County councils and village libraries," which proposed that county authorities co-operate to establish travelling libraries for the use of neighboring villages. In the ensuing discussion it was objected that such a movement would tend to discourage the formation of permanent collection and to impair the individual character of existing libraries.

In the afternoon the members were taken down the Manchester Ship Canal and entertained by Sir William and Lady Bailey in the Old Hall, the seat of the Trafford family, in Trafford Park, returning in time to be the guests of the Manchester Literary Club at an evening smoking concert.

On Thursday morning, Sept. 7, the final session was opened with a paper by T. W. Lyster, of the National Library of Ireland, entitled "Observations on the theory and practice of shelf classification." He said that objections to classification systems were sometimes based on a misconception of the librarian's relation to them. It was a vain dream to suppose that all libraries which adopted the same classification scheme would be arranged exactly like each other. The special circumstances of the library, the idiosyncrasies of the librarian and his assistants must modify the arrangement of the books. Above all machinery was the man who intelligently used the machinery. The theme here chosen was continued in a

paper on "The philosophical classification of literature as compared with practical schemes of classification," by Archibald Clarke, of the Royal Medical and Chirurgical Society of London, who argued that the latter half of the 16th and the early years of the 17th century were pre-eminently the times when pioneers in the work of classification of knowledge flourished, chief of whom were Gesner, Bergeron, de Savigny, and Bacon. The assumption was more than probable that the continental librarians and others who drew up more or less practical schemes of classification for arrangement of books in libraries owed something to the work of Gesner and Bacon. The work of later classifiers of knowledge, or literature, was conspicuous for want of uniformity among the various authors of schemes. It was impossible with perfect accuracy to map out a complete tree of human knowledge, as a mixture of faculties was frequently required to produce any one branch. Change in the meaning of words was also liable to upset classification. The librarian classified books in his libraries without reference to the great branches of knowledge they exemplified being remotely connected. But in details he had to thank the early philosophical classifiers for their careful work, and this was even acknowledged by modern librarians of a very practical type.

"Public records and public libraries" was the subject of a paper by Ernest Axon, of Manchester, who recommended that in every town where a free public library had been established the public records, such as parish registers, records of local courts and town councils and overseers' accounts, should be deposited there to be freely accessible to all who had occasion to refer to them. In the discussion, Dr. Garnett reminded the conference that at the Dublin meeting a resolution was passed advocating the foundation of a national photographic institution for taking photographic copies of public records, including parish registers. The general question of a more effectual custody of national records, especially parish registers, had been pressed upon the government by many persons, including Professor Bryce, and it was probable that a national commission might before long be appointed to investigate this subject.

Mr. Carter, of Kingston-on-Thames, dealt with "Naval and military libraries." He said that the Admiralty supplied books for the use both of the officers and of the men, and evidently intended that the libraries should have an educational as well as a recreative side. The subjects of seamanship, gunnery, and engineering were represented; those of steam and naval history needed, perhaps, a little more attention. Naval libraries were in charge of the Director of Victualling, books being classed as seamen's clothing; but the Victualling Department had discovered that they were really stationery, and should therefore be demanded through the Stationery Department, whence they were obtained if the Treasury granted sufficient money. Military libraries

were established under the Queen's regulations, and were open to all non-commissioned officers and men who subscribed at rates ranging from 3d. to 6d. a month. The books for the regimental libraries were obtained from the garrison libraries, which were larger institutions, under the supervision of the Director of Military Education.

Owing to lack of time the presentation of the remaining papers on the program was postponed. A letter was read from R. C. Christie, a past president of the association, expressing his regret at being unable, through illness, to attend the meeting; votes of thanks to the Manchester authorities and the many local hosts were passed, and the session was then adjourned. It was followed by a special business meeting, at which the report of the council, reviewing the year past, was read and discussed. The chief events of the year were noted as the establishment of the *Library Association Record*, the issue of the new L. A. U. K. year-book, and the library classes conducted by the education committee. The acts had been adopted in 18 places, and the new libraries bill had been again introduced in the House of Lords, where it had been dropped in consequence of the prorogation of Parliament.

The afternoon was devoted to visits to Chetham Library and Hospital, and to Owens College. At the former a printed account of "The Chetham Library," by A. Nicholson, prepared especially for the occasion, was distributed among the visitors; at the latter W. E. Rhodes read an interesting paper on "The Library of Owens College," and the handsome new library building given to the college by Mr. R. C. Christie was inspected.

The evening was given up to the annual dinner, which was held in the Grand Hotel, Manchester. Alderman Southern, the president, occupied the chair, and there was a large attendance. After the usual toasts, to the Queen, to the municipalities whose hospitality had been so cordially extended, and to the L. A. U. K., the chief feature of the occasion occurred in the reading by Mr. Pacy, hon. sec., of an address beautifully engrossed on vellum and bound by Zaehnsdorf, for presentation to Dr. Garnett. Mr. Pacy said all sections and members of the association had subscribed to the testimonial in their desire to mark their high appreciation of Dr. Garnett's friendship and services. The address, which was signed by Lord Crawford, the late president of the association, and by 277 subscribers, said in part: "You have been a constant and an earnest supporter of the Library Association since its formation 22 years ago. In matters relating to library economy and administration and the movement for the formation of public libraries, as well as in the important branch of bibliographical research, you have brought to the councils of the association aid as valuable as it was varied and exact, and in the perhaps more congenial and equally important field of literature you have, at the same time, achieved a position amongst the foremost writers of the



day." The address was accompanied by a gold watch and a barometer.

The presentation was made by President Southern in a few appropriate words. Dr. Garnett, in returning thanks, spoke of the kindness he had received from the members of the association. Referring to his official connection with the British Museum, he said it would be well if that institution could be brought into closer touch with general educational movements. Although doing a great work the Museum did not receive that income from the country that it deserved; it could do more for the country and the Library Association than it did at present, and he regretted that in consequence of the small extent of the funds, comparatively, the very important work of the printing of the library catalog was not undertaken at first upon the scale which they now saw would have been desirable. He should rejoice to see a copy of the catalog of the Museum brought up to date, as it ought to be, and accessible in every free library in the country, so that every citizen should have the opportunity of learning, without cost, what literary treasures the museum contained.

Friday, Sept. 8, was given up to an excursion to Chester, where the members visited the Cathedral, the Walls, the Rows, the Museum, and the Free Library; while the closing event of the conference was a delightful visit to Eaton Hall, by invitation of the Duke of Westminster.

### American Library Association.

*President:* R. G. Thwaites, State Historical Society, Madison, Wis.

*Secretary:* Henry J. Carr, Public Library, Scranton, Pa.

*Treasurer:* Gardner M. Jones, Public Library, Salem, Mass.

#### A. L. A. PUBLISHING SECTION.

The four quarterly instalments consisting of 57 titles of the annotated cards for books of 1898 on English history have now been completed. Some extra sets of cards and extra pamphlets were printed and can be obtained of the Publishing Section at the prices stated below. There are also still in hand some sets of cards and pamphlets of the books of 1897. Mr. W. Dawson Johnston of Brown University selects the titles and writes the notes which indicate briefly the character, scope, sources, and value of the books with references to the important reviews.

*Prices:* Books of 1897—(1) card form \$1; (2) pamphlet .35; (3) both cards and pamphlet \$1.25.

Books of 1898—(1) card form \$1.25; (2) pamphlet .50; (3) both cards and pamphlet \$1.50.

Subscriptions for the cards and pamphlets for books of 1899 are solicited.

Analytical catalog cards for three more of the titles on List 1 of books of composite authorship and periodical sets have just been issued, *vis.* Depew, One hundred years of American commerce; N. Y. State Museum, Bulletin and memoirs; Liber scriptorum.

Cards were previously issued for the Reports of the U. S. National Museum and Bureau of Ethnology.

Cards are in press for the Reports of the Smithsonian Institution and the Proceedings of the American Association for the Advancement of Science (Addresses of the vice-presidents).

Price \$1 per 100 cards.

Prices for the German Festschriften included in the first list have not been printed, in the hopes that additional subscriptions may be received.

Work on the Portrait index is progressing, but further coöperation is needed. Several magazines have to be indexed and volunteers are wanted.

### State Library Commissions.

**COLORADO STATE BOARD OF LIBRARY COMMISSIONERS:** C. R. Dudley, chairman, Public Library, Denver.

**CONNECTICUT F. P. L. COMMITTEE:** Caroline M. Hewins, secretary, Public Library, Hartford, Ct.

**GEORGIA LIBRARY COMMISSION:** Miss Anne Wallace, secretary, Carnegie Library, Atlanta, Ga.

**INDIANA STATE LIBRARY COMMISSION:** W. E. Henry, secretary, State Library, Indianapolis.

**KANSAS STATE LIBRARY COMMISSION:** James L. King, secretary, Topeka.

**MAINE STATE LIBRARY COMMISSION:** George T. Little, chairman, Bowdoin College Library, Brunswick.

**MASSACHUSETTS STATE LIBRARY COMMISSION:** Miss E. P. Sohler, secretary, Beverly.

**MINNESOTA LIBRARY COMMISSION:** Miss Gratia A. Countryman, secretary, Public Library, Minneapolis.

The Minnesota Library Commission, recently appointed, is organized as follows: Chairman, Margaret Evans, Northfield; secretary, Gratia A. Countryman, Minneapolis; ex-officio members, Warren Upham, State Historical Society; Cyrus Northrop, president State University; John H. Lewis, Superintendent of Public Instruction.

The commission has an appropriation of \$5000 annually for two years, with which to carry on the work. This sum is not available until Jan. 1, 1900, but in the meantime work is being organized and definite plans formed.

The commission wishes, as its first labor, to gather statistics of Minnesota libraries, to find the number, location, and condition of those already existing, in order to know the field in which it is laboring. The formation of permanent libraries and the better organization and equipment of those now in existence will be the chief aim of the commission in all of its plans. The travelling library will be used as a means to an end in the larger villages and towns, and only in the smallest villages and

country communities will be considered as fulfilling its rightful mission. 50 libraries of 50 volumes each will be ready for use early in January. Nothing will be done at the start toward forming special libraries for special clubs or classes. That and other desirable things will be planned later, when Minnesota has more towns that boast good town libraries.

GRATIA A. COUNTRYMAN, *Secretary*.

NEW HAMPSHIRE STATE LIBRARY COMMISSION: J. H. Whittier, secretary, East Rochester.

NEW YORK: Public Libraries Division, State University, Melvil Dewey, director, Albany.

OHIO STATE LIBRARY COMMISSION: C. B. Galbreath, secretary, State Library, Columbus.

VERMONT FREE LIBRARY COMMISSION: Miss M. L. Titcomb, secretary, Goodrich Memorial Library, Newport.

WISCONSIN FREE LIBRARY COMMISSION: F. A. Hutchins, secretary, Madison; Miss L. E. Stearns, librarian, Milwaukee.

### State Library Associations.

#### CALIFORNIA LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.

*President*: F. J. Teggart, Mechanics' Institute Library, San Francisco.

*Secretary*: R. E. Cowan, 829 Mission Street, San Francisco.

*Treasurer*: Miss Emily I. Wade, Public Library, San Francisco.

The regular meeting of the Library Association of California was held on Sept. 8, 1899, in the Mechanics' Institute, San Francisco. This was the first meeting since May, it being customary to observe vacation during the summer months. An opening address was made by President Teggart, followed by an essay on "The Theatre Libre and its influence on modern French drama," by Mr. Herbert C. Nash, librarian of Stanford University. Mr. Teggart introduced for discussion the subject of "Access to the shelves," in which a number of the members took part. Miss Mary F. Williams, of the Albany Library School, who was a visitor at this meeting, spoke of the open-shelf question as considered by that institution. J. F. Abbott, of Stanford University, and Edward A. Abbott, of San Francisco, were elected to membership.

ROBERT E. COWAN, *Secretary*.

#### COLORADO LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.

*President*: A. E. Whitaker, State University Library, Boulder.

*Secretary*: Herbert E. Richie, City Library, Denver.

*Treasurer*: J. W. Chapman, McClelland Library, Pueblo.

#### CONNECTICUT LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.

*President*: W. J. James, Wesleyan University Library, Middletown.

*Secretary*: Miss J. S. Heydrick, Pequot Library, Southport.

*Treasurer*: Miss Alice T. Cummings, Public Library, Hartford.

#### GEORGIA LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.

*President*: Miss Anne Wallace, Young Men's Library, Atlanta.

*Secretary-Treasurer*: C. W. Hubner, Atlanta.

#### ILLINOIS STATE LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.

*President*: E. S. Willcox, Public Library, Peoria.

*Secretary*: Miss M. E. Ahern, Public Libraries, 215 Madison St., Chicago.

*Treasurer*: Mrs. Josephine Resor, Public Library, Canton.

#### INDIANA LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.

*President*: W. E. Henry, State Library, Indianapolis.

*Secretary*: Miss Belle S. Hanna, Public Library, Greencastle.

*Treasurer*: Miss Jessie Allen, Public Library, Indianapolis.

#### IOWA STATE LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.

*President*: W. H. Johnston, Public Library, Fort Dodge.

*Secretary and Treasurer*: Miss Ella McLoney, Public Library, Des Moines.

The Iowa Library Association will hold its 10th annual meeting at Cedar Rapids, Nov. 9 and 10. The program will include addresses by Melvil Dewey, Miss M. E. Ahern, and Miss L. E. Stearns.

#### MAINE LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.

*President*: E. W. Hall, Colby University, Waterville.

*Treasurer*: Prof. G. T. Little, Bowdoin College, Brunswick.

#### MASSACHUSETTS LIBRARY CLUB.

*President*: W. H. Tillinghast, Harvard University Library.

*Secretary*: H. C. Wellman, Public Library, Brookline.

*Treasurer*: Miss Margaret D. McGuffy, Public Library, Boston.

The Massachusetts Library Club will hold its annual meeting at Fitchburg on Oct. 26. The Bay Path and Western Massachusetts library clubs have accepted invitations to meet with the Massachusetts Library Club.

The morning session, opening at 11 o'clock, will be devoted to reports, election of officers, and miscellaneous business, followed by a discussion upon "Library club work in Massachusetts," led by Miss Chandler, Miss Morison, Miss A. L. Sargent, Mr. Dana, Mr. Fletcher, Dr. Wire, and others. The club will pay a visit to the Fitchburg Public Library, after which lunch will be served by a caterer at 50 cents per head. After lunch the club will proceed by trolley cars to inspect a mill of the Fitchburg Paper Co., by invitation of Mr. H. I. Wallace. At the afternoon session a paper on "Paternalism in public libraries" will be read by Mr. Lindsay Swift, of the Public Library, Boston.

A train leaves the North Union Station, Boston, at 9.30 a.m., reaching Fitchburg at 10.50

a.m. Returning, leaves Fitchburg at 4.35 p.m., reaching Boston at 5.50 p.m.

HILLER C. WELLMAN, *Secretary*.

#### WESTERN MASSACHUSETTS LIBRARY CLUB.

*President*: H. H. Ballard, Berkshire Athenæum, Pittsfield.

*Secretary*: Miss F. Mabel Winchell, Forbes Library, Northampton.

*Treasurer*: Miss Mary M. Robison, Free Library, Amherst.

The Western Massachusetts Library Club has accepted the invitation of the Massachusetts Library Club to its fall meeting at Fitchburg, Mass. Its fall meeting will consequently be postponed, and it is earnestly desired that every one who can shall attend this meeting of the state club, thus showing our appreciation of the invitation and gaining for ourselves the inspiration which comes from a larger meeting, as well as the opportunity of meeting the workers from the other parts of the state.

F. MABEL WINCHELL, *Secretary*.

#### MICHIGAN LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.

*President*: H: M. Utley, Public Library, Detroit.

*Secretary*: Mrs. A. F. McDonnell, Bay City.

*Treasurer*: Miss Genevieve M. Walton, Normal College Library, Ypsilanti.

The Michigan State Library Association will hold its ninth annual meeting at Ypsilanti Oct. 26 and 27.

#### MINNESOTA LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.

*President*: Dr. W: W. Folwell, State University, Minneapolis.

*Secretary*: Miss Gratia Countryman, Public Library, Minneapolis.

*Treasurer*: Miss Anne Hammond, Public Library, St. Paul.

The Minnesota library association will hold its seventh annual meeting at St. Cloud, Minn., Oct. 17-18, 1899. The sessions will open on Tuesday, Oct. 17, at 2 p.m., and continue until Wednesday noon. Among the subjects to be presented are "How can the untrained librarian get technical knowledge," "Public documents, how to catalog and use them," "Problems of classification," "The necessary rules and regulations," "Bulletin boards and special lists," "The best reference helps," etc.

In addition to the regular program there will be a class in elementary cataloging conducted by a graduate of the Armour Library School. As much assistance will be rendered in this class as is possible in so short a time.

The meeting is held simultaneously with that of the State Federation of Women's Clubs.

#### NEBRASKA LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.

*President*: W. E. Jillson, Doane College, Crete.

*Secretary*: Miss Edith Toblitt, Public Library, Omaha.

*Treasurer*: Miss M. A. O'Brien, Public Library, Omaha.

#### NEW HAMPSHIRE LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.

*President*: A. H. Chase, Concord.

*Secretary*: Miss Grace Blanchard, Public Library, Concord.

*Treasurer*: Miss E. A. Pickering, Public Library, Newington.

#### JOINT MEETING OF NEW ENGLAND LIBRARY ASSOCIATIONS.

The third union meeting of the New England library associations was held by invitation of the New Hampshire Library Association at Concord, N. H., on Sept. 20 and 21, in the handsome state library building.

In spite of rain, about 70 were present when Mr. Arthur H. Chase, state librarian and president of the New Hampshire body, called the convention to order and introduced Gov. Frank West Rollins as the first speaker. The governor, who is himself a successful author, said in part:

"New Hampshire is interested in education; therefore it is interested in you. You represent that elusive but all-pervading education which one gets from general reading. We pick up a thought here, an idea there, a phrase fastens itself in our minds, or we add a word to our vocabulary. It is all unconscious, but very lasting. You all know how many great men and women have been educated without the advantages of schools, simply by the means of a few books. There are but 14 towns in New Hampshire that do not boast a public library. Our state is yearly receiving a great body of foreign and alien material, strong, rugged, ambitious, but largely uneducated. Is it too much to hope that our many public libraries and other avenues of free education may be the means of leavening this heterogeneous mass, and bring these immigrants to the standard of our own people? Yours is a beautiful, noble profession, and one that is destined to grow in the public estimation. I feel it a compliment to my state and native city that it should have been selected as your place of meeting."

Miss Caroline H. Garland, librarian of the Public Library at Dover, gracefully voiced the welcome of the New Hampshire Library Association, saying that the meeting could not fail to be a valuable one, because the visitors by bringing so much to it made sure of carrying much away.

The concluding address of the afternoon was delivered by Prof. Charles F. Richardson, of Dartmouth College, upon "The place of sentiment in the intellectual life." It was a delightful and scholarly résumé of the part played by sentiment in intellectuality, and a powerful plea for the restoration of this important factor to the place it has occupied, but which it is now apparently losing.

In the interval between the sessions the librarians were driven to St. Paul's School and shown the buildings and the chapel, which ranks finest of its kind in America.

The first speaker of the evening was Mr. Frank P. Hill, librarian of the Newark (N. J.) Free Public Library, who outlined the steps

preliminary to wise construction of library buildings. (See p. 563.) The other speaker of the evening session was Mr. George H. Moses, secretary of the New Hampshire Forestry Commission, whose topic was "The relation of the public library to forest preservation." This paper was illustrated by lantern slides which served to emphasize some of the prevailing disastrous forest conditions in America which librarians, as educational agents, can find some means to correct.

Following the program a social hour was enjoyed.

At the concluding session on the following morning the addresses of Mr. Hill and Mr. Moses were discussed, as were also practical questions of library management and the matter of cheap book postage.

The convention was fortunate in the attendance of Miss Lodilla Ambrose, of Illinois, Mr. Henry J. Carr, of Scranton, Mr. J. N. Wing, of New York City, and Mr. Frank C. Patten, of Helena, Montana. The lights of the profession in New England were present in well-appreciated numbers, and it seems not too much to claim to say that when needs must, a union library meeting can compete successfully with the equinoctial.

GRACE BLANCHARD, *Secretary*.

#### NEW JERSEY LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.

*President*: F. P. Hill, Free Public Library, Newark.

*Secretary*: Miss Clara W. Hunt, Free Public Library, Newark.

*Treasurer*: Miss Cecelia C. Lambert, Public Library, Passaic.

#### NEW YORK LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.

*President*: A. L. Peck, Public Library, Gloversville.

*Secretary*: W. R. Eastman, State Library, Albany.

*Treasurer*: J. N. Wing, Free Circulating Library, 226 W. 42d st., New York City.

#### OHIO LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.

*President*: Charles Orr, Case Library, Cleveland.

*Secretary*: Miss Martha Mercer, Public Library, Mansfield.

*Treasurer*: Miss K. W. Sherwood, Public Library, Cincinnati.

#### PENNSYLVANIA LIBRARY CLUB.

*President*: Dr. E. J. Nolan, Academy of Natural Sciences, Philadelphia.

*Secretary*: Miss Mary P. Farr, Philadelphia Normal School.

*Treasurer*: Miss Jean E. Graffen, Free Library of Philadelphia.

#### WESTERN PENNSYLVANIA LIBRARY CLUB.

*President*: Miss Helen Sperry, Carnegie Library, Homestead.

*Secretary-Treasurer*: Miss Mary F. Macrum, Carnegie Library, Pittsburgh.

#### VERMONT LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.

*President*: Miss S. C. Hagar, Fletcher Free Library, Burlington.

*Secretary*: Miss M. L. Titcomb, Goodrich Memorial Library, Newport.

*Treasurer*: E. F. Holbrook, Proctor.

#### WISCONSIN LIBRARY INSTITUTES.

The members of the Stout Free Travelling Libraries and of the West Wisconsin Travelling Library Association will hold afternoon and evening meetings on Oct. 16-20, as follows: at Eau Galle, Wis., Oct. 16; at Downing, Wis., Oct. 18; at Colfax, Wis., Oct. 19; and at Menomonie, Wis., Oct. 20.

#### WISCONSIN STATE LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.

*President*: Mrs. Charles S. Morris, Berlin.

*Secretary*: Miss Minnie M. Oakley, State Historical Society, Madison.

*Treasurer*: Miss Nellie C. Silverthorn, Public Library, Wausau.

#### NORTH WISCONSIN TRAVELLING LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.

*President*: Mrs. E. E. Vaughn, Ashland.

*Secretary and Treasurer*: Miss Janet Green, Vaughn Library, Ashland.

### Library Clubs.

#### BAY PATH LIBRARY CLUB.

*President*: Miss M. Anna Tarbell, Brimfield, Mass.

*Secretary*: Mrs. C. A. Fuller, Oxford, Mass.

*Treasurer*: Miss Nellie A. Cutter, Spencer, Mass.

#### LIBRARY CLUB OF BUFFALO.

*President*: H. L. Elmendorf, Public Library.

*Secretary-Treasurer*: Miss Elizabeth D. Renninger, Catholic Institute.

#### CHICAGO LIBRARY CLUB.

*President*: C. B. Roden, Public Library, Chicago.

*Secretary*: Miss Irene Warren, Chicago Normal School.

*Treasurer*: Miss M. E. Ahern, Public Libraries, 215 Madison st., Chicago.

#### NEW YORK LIBRARY CLUB.

*President*: Dr. J. S. Billings, N. Y. Public Library.

*Secretary*: Miss Pauline Leipziger, Aguilar Library.

*Treasurer*: Miss Harriet Husted, Y. W. C. A. Library.

#### LIBRARY ASSOCIATION OF WASHINGTON CITY.

*President*: Dr. H. Carrington Bolton, Cosmos Club.

*Secretary*: W. L. Boyden, Librarian Supreme Council 33° A. A. Order of Scottish Rite.

*Treasurer*: T. L. Cole, Statute Law Book Co.

*Meetings*: Second Wednesday evening of each month.

## Library Schools and Training Classes.

## DREXEL INSTITUTE LIBRARY SCHOOL.

CLASS OF 1899-1900.

Adeline Sophia Brown, New Haven, Ct.  
 Greta Elizabeth Brown, New Britain, Ct.  
 Mattie J. Chappell, Grand Haven, Mich.  
 Elizabeth L. Clark, Bangor, Me.  
 Elizabeth Voshell Clark, Wyoming, Del.  
 Florence Lydia Drinker, Madison, Wis.  
 Charlotte Elizabeth Evans, Erie, Pa.  
 Charlotte Kennedy Hannum, Philadelphia, Pa.  
 Susan Howland, Wilmington, Del.  
 Bessie Homer Jennings, Ogontz, Pa.  
 Virginia Morley Keyes, Windsor, N. Y.  
 Helene Agnes Kingman, Vineland, N. J.  
 Emily Jane Kuhn, Huntington, Pa.  
 Katharine Stockton Leiper, Philadelphia, Pa.  
 Penelope Bentley Parker, Flat Rock, N. C.  
 Mary A. Partridge, Argyle, Wis.  
 Grace Howard Peterson, Philadelphia, Pa.  
 Caroline Farr Webster, Geneva, N. Y.  
 Florence Ethel Wheeler, Leominster, Mass.  
 Beulah Sansom White, New Lisbon, N. J.

Recent appointments of graduates to positions include the following:

Mary Parry Farr, class of '95, assistant Drexel Institute Library and instructor in Library School.

Marjorie L. Holmes, class of '99, assistant Drexel Institute Library.

Louise F. Buhrman, class of '99, librarian Girls' Normal School, Philadelphia.

Caspar Gregory Dickson, class of '99, librarian Macalester College, St. Paul, Minn.

ALICE B. KROEGER, *Director*.

## ILLINOIS STATE LIBRARY SCHOOL.

The Illinois State Library School opened its doors this year on Sept. 20. The senior class numbers 26 students and the junior class 24 students, coming from the states of Colorado, Illinois, Iowa, Kansas, Michigan, Minnesota, Nebraska, New Hampshire, New York, Ohio, and Wisconsin.

The following institutions are represented: Albany Normal School, Benzonla College, Illinois State Normal University, Knox College, Lake Forest University, Lutheran College, Secorah, Ia., Northwest University, Oberlin College, Shepardson College, Southern Illinois Normal School, Syracuse University, Vassar College, Wellesley College, Wheaton College, Wilmington College, Wisconsin Normal School, Oshkosh, the state universities of Colorado, Illinois, Kansas, Michigan, Minnesota, Nebraska, and Wisconsin, and the University of Upsala, Sweden.

25 sophomores and freshman have registered for the library course. They will meet with the seniors and juniors only at the general assembly of the school, three or four times during the year.

The senior bibliography class was addressed on Sept. 27 by Prof. James B. Scott, of the School of Law, on "Law books suitable for an average public library." On Oct. 3

Prof. Lewis A. Rhoades, professor of German, gave an address on German books for a library of 10,000 volumes. Each professor will prepare the questions for the quiz upon his lecture.

The course on general reference books and the use of the library has been opened to all students in the university, without registration for credits. The lectures are given in the evening in order to accommodate students from all colleges. The interest taken in the course is very satisfactory. Students who present written exercises each week may take an examination at the end of the semester and receive credit, but many who do not intend to apply for credits are preparing as many of the exercises as possible.

The school enjoyed a visit from Miss Florence Woodworth, of the New York State Library School, on Sept. 27 and 28. While Miss Woodworth did not speak to the school, her presence was a pleasure to all.

K. L. SHARP, *Director*.

## NEW YORK STATE LIBRARY SCHOOL.

LIST OF STUDENTS, 1899-1900.

The fall term opened Wednesday, Oct. 4, with the following students:

*Senior class.*

Ashley, Frederick William (B.A. Adelbert College, 1885; M.A. 1888; Yale Divinity School, 1885-86; Harvard University, 1891-92; Librarian, Public Library, Painesville, O., 1898). Painesville, O.

Barker, Emma Elizabeth (B.A. Wellesley College, 1898; Assistant Albany Y. M. A. Library, 1899-). Plattsburg, N. Y.

Borden, Fanny (B.A. Vassar College, 1898). Fall River, Mass.

Brown, Bertha Mower (University of Wisconsin, 1897-98; Assistant Public Library, Eau Claire, Wis., 1894-97). Eau Claire, Wis.

Crumph, Richard Law (B.A. Williams College, 1891). New London, Ct.

Knight, Marion Ada. Lynn, Mass.

Mudge, Isadore Gilbert (Ph.B. Cornell University, 1897). Brooklyn, N. Y.

Paine, Florence Augusta (Smith College, 1892-95). Boston, Mass.

Saxton, Ida Louise (Ph.B. Syracuse University, 1893; Ph.M. 1896). Clyde, N. Y.

Smith, Faith Edith (Ph.B. Northwestern University, 1896; Assistant Northwestern University Library, 1892-98). Aurora, Ill.

Williams, Mary Floyd (University of California, 1885-89; Vice-director's assistant N. Y. State Library School, 1899-). Oakland, Cal.

*Junior class.*

Bascom, Elvira Lucile (B.A. Allegheny College, 1894). Meadville, Pa.

Beard, Josephine (B.A. Oberlin College, 1894; Assistant librarian Fisk University, Nashville, Tenn., 1895-98). West Springfield, Mass.

Brown, Charles Harvey (B.A. Wesleyan University, 1897; M.A., 1899; Assistant Wesleyan University Library, 1897-99). Round Lake, N. Y.

Casamajor, Mary (B.A. Adelphi College, 1899). Brooklyn, N. Y.  
 Davis, Esther Mercy (Ph.B. Cornell University, 1899.) Oneida, N. Y.  
 Goetzman, Charlotte Eve (Ph.B. Northwestern University, 1894; Assistant Boone High School Library, 6 mos., 1899). Boone, Iowa.  
 Green, Walter Cox (B.A. Harvard University, 1899; M.A. 1892; B.D. Harvard Divinity School, 1892). Albany, N. Y.  
 Hall, Drew Bert (B.A. Bowdoin College, 1899; Assistant Bowdoin College Library, 1895-99). Brunswick, Me.  
 Hays, Alice Newman (B.A. Stanford University, 1896). Pasadena, Cal.  
 Hyde, Sara Gardner (Mt. Holyoke College, 1892). Ware, Mass.  
 Keller, Helen Rex (B.L. Smith College, 1899). Jamaica Plain, Mass.  
 Lyman, Mary Alice (B.L. Smith College, 1899). Waverly, N. Y.  
 Maltbie, Anne Louise (Smith College, 1894-95). Granby, Ct.  
 Mathews, Mary Eliza (B.A. Adelphi College, 1899). Brooklyn, N. Y.  
 Nutting, Gertrude Belle (B.L. University of Wisconsin, 1893; Radcliffe College, 1893-94.) Whitewater, Wis.  
 Phelps, Anna Redfield (B.A. Vassar College, 1873; Trustee Glen Haven (N. Y.) Public Library). Syracuse, N. Y.  
 Prentiss, May Louise (B.A. University of Nebraska, 1899; Assistant University of Nebraska Library, 1895-97). Lincoln, Neb.  
 Rigby, Grace Kendrick (Ph.B., Cornell College, 1899). Mt. Vernon, Iowa.  
 Sanderson, Edna May (B.A. Wellesley College, 1899). Fort Plain, N. Y.  
 Stillman, Carrie Eliza (Ph.B. Oberlin College, 1891; Ph.M. University of Chicago, 1896). Hudson, Wis.  
 Smith, Marie Martin. New Hope, Pa.  
 Springer, May Z. (Ph.B. Franklin College, 1898). Indianapolis, Ind.  
 Thompson, Helen Morton (B.A. Women's College of Baltimore, 1894). Cheltenham, Md.  
 Virgin, Edward Harmon (B.A. Harvard University, 1899). Dedham, Mass.  
 Vought, Sabra Wilbur (B.A. Allegheny College, 1899). Jamestown, N. Y.  
 Whitmore, Frank Hayden (B.A. Harvard University, 1899). Gardiner, Me.  
 Wilcox, Frank Grenell (B.A. Colgate University, 1894). Holyoke, Mass.  
 Williams, Edward Christopher (B.L. Adelbert College, 1892; Librarian Adelbert College, 1894-). Cleveland, Ohio.  
 Woodin, Gertrude Lee (B.A. Wellesley College, 1892). Greenport, Ill.  
 Yust, William Frederick (B.A. Central Wesleyan College, 1893; M.A. 1898; University of Chicago, 1894-96; Assistant University of Chicago Library, 1896-99). Chicago, Ill.

SALOME CUTLER FAIRCHILD.

#### PRATT INSTITUTE LIBRARY SCHOOL.

The Pratt Institute Library School opened Oct. 3, 1899, with its usual number of first-year students, and three students specializing

for the work of children's librarians. Classified by states, the record of the class is as follows:

Colorado 1	Minnesota 1
Connecticut 1	New York 11
Georgia 3	Ohio 1
Massachusetts 4	Pennsylvania 2

#### PERSONAL NOTES.

Miss Mary Williams, class of '98, has accepted a position in the library of Hampton Institute.

Miss Bertha S. Wildman, class of '99, has been made librarian of the Madison (N. J.) Public Library.

Miss Emily Turner, class of '98, has been engaged to reorganize the Free Library at Oshkosh, Wis.

Miss Helen L. Plummer, class of '97, has accepted a position as assistant in the Public Library of Denver, Colorado.

Miss Gertrude E. Lachlan, class of '96, has been engaged to classify and catalog the new Henry McCaddin Memorial Library in Brooklyn, New York.

Miss Mabel Shryock, class of '99, has been engaged as an assistant in the Carnegie Library of Pittsburgh, Pa.

Miss Carrie C. Dennis, class of '99, historical course, has returned to her position as librarian of the Lincoln (Neb.) Public Library. A new building, it is hoped, will soon be erected (to replace the old one recently destroyed by fire) and the library reorganized on new methods.

#### UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN SUMMER SCHOOL.

The Wisconsin Summer School of Library Science held its fifth annual session at Madison in the eight weeks from July 3-Aug. 25. There were 36 students, six of them coming for the special course in cataloging and classification during the last four weeks.

Special attention was given to bibliography, and the students had the advantage of lectures on the literature of special subjects by Dr. Birge, Professor Stearns, and Professor Haskins, of the university faculty, Professor Macy, of Grinnell College, Bishop Messmer, head of the Catholic Summer School, and Professor Kummel, of Lewis Institute, Chicago.

The president of the American Library Association gave four delightful and profitable talks on history and travel, and Mr. Walter M. Smith, librarian of the Wisconsin University, gave a series of lectures on bibliography and classification with special reference to large and college libraries. Miss Gratia Countryman discussed the questions of library administration and library extension as illustrated by the work of the Minneapolis Public Library. Miss Stearns spent some time at the school, meeting the students personally and talking on children's reading and travelling libraries. Mr. Wyer, of the library of the University of Nebraska, reviewed bibliographical aids with special reference to education. Miss Tanner spoke of the use of pictures in library work, and Mr. Hutchins told about the work of the

Wisconsin Free Library Commission in the country districts.

There were excellent exhibits showing picture work for children's rooms, schools, and bulletin-boards in the libraries at Bloomington, Aurora, Evanston, and Oak Park, Ill., and St. Louis, Mo.

The students remained in Madison for the meeting of the Wisconsin Library Association, and enjoyed the lake trips and the camp fire.

The libraries represented by one or more members of the staff were the Cleveland, St. Louis, and Omaha public libraries; St. Louis Mercantile; Ohio State Library; libraries of the Universities of Washington, Arkansas, and Oklahoma; Grinnell College; normal school libraries at Chicago and Stevens Point and Whitewater in Wisconsin; also the public libraries of Kenosha, Stevens Point, Baraboo, and Madison, Wisconsin; Faribault and Owatonna, Minnesota; Rockford, Quincy, and Bloomington, Illinois; Lincoln and Crete, Nebraska; and Council Bluffs, Iowa.

CORNELIA MARVIN, *Director*.

### Reviews.

DANA, J. C. A library primer. Chicago, Library Bureau, 1899. c. 3-180+9 p. D.

This is what its name implies, a primer. It is not meant to be a handbook of library economy or an exhaustive treatise on library practice. Both of the latter we still lack. But inside its own limitations, as set forth in the preface, it is an excellent work. There are some 55 short chapters in all, dealing with the varied problems of the small United States library of from 1000 to 5000 or from 5000 to 10,000 volumes.

Leaving for the present the material subjects which are always treated of in such works, we find chapters on What does a public library do for a community?; general policy of the library; trustees; librarian; meeting the public; the public library for the public; librarian as a host; making friends for the library; rules for the public; rules for trustees and employees. As an association we have worked for 20 years over the architectural, bibliographical, and mechanical details of library work. Now we are coming to the more direct work of reaching the people. But had we not better reach ourselves? Would not a school of applied ethics for librarians find some field for action? It will do none of us harm to read and apply the chapters I have noted. Indeed, chapter 34, "The public library for the public," seems about the best thing in the book. There can be few librarians selfish enough to fill their shelves with books on their own particular fads; fortunately, most of us are kept too busy helping other people to have a fad.

The parts for beginners are well worked out, and, thanks to Mr. Dana's skillful editing, fit well together. They cover all the ground, superficially of course—it is only a primer, remember—but give lists and facsimiles and references so as to form a guide-book. It is some-

what to be regretted that the illustrations as originally published in *Public Libraries* did not appear in this permanent form, but enough have been given to point the way. Besides the more usual items of bookbuying, selecting, cataloging, classification, binding, shelving, etc., the last chapter is devoted to rules for the care of photographs and facsimiles of cards showing how they should be cataloged. This is entirely new matter, not found usually in such works.

The publishers have made a neat twelvemo, with good paper and large print, an attractive-looking book, creditable alike to them and to Mr. Dana's typographical taste. It is well bound, machine sewed, and opens flat, and has a good though not exhaustive index. Indeed, Mr. Dana has prepared a book most helpful to those about to start a small library, to those in a small library as librarians or assistants, and to those having such libraries in charge as directors and trustees. He is to be congratulated on a successful and creditable piece of work.

G. E. W.

RIPLEY, William Z. A selected bibliography of the anthropology and ethnology of Europe. Boston, Published by the Trustees of the Public Library, 1899. 10+160 p. O.

A meritorious contribution to the young science of anthropology and probably the most important bibliographical work attempted by any American library in recent years. Nothing less could be expected when a noted scientist undertakes the compilation of the subject-matter and an expert librarian like Mr. Swift attends to the more technical features of the work. The consequence is that we are offered a volume to which we can turn with confidence and which at the same time pleases the eye and saves time by its convenient form, careful editing, and practical arrangement.

The bibliography includes the prehistoric archaeology, philological or historical ethnology, and physical anthropology or somatology of Europe, northern Africa, western Asia, and Siberia. It lays no claim, however, to practical exhaustiveness, except in the somatological field. As far as may be judged from a brief examination and from comparison here and there with the catalog of the Field Museum Library little of importance seems to have been omitted. There are, however, some works not included that will probably be missed by anthropologists, among these being Almgren's *Nord-europäische fibelformen* (1897); Andree's *Ethnographische parallelen* (1889); Balzer's *Glyphes des rochers du Bohuslän* (1881); Burge's *Preglacial man and the Aryan race* (1887); Clingensperg-Berg's *Das Gräberfeld von Reichenhall* (1890); Cotteau's *Le préhistorique en Europe* (1889); Debierre's *L'homme avant l'histoire* (1888); Kolmann's *Menschenrassen Europas und Asiens* (1889); Lissauer's *Alterthümer der Bronzezeit* (1891); Lombroso's *Books on criminal anthropology*; Martinet's *Le Berry préhistorique* (1878); Maska's *Der diluviale Mensch in Mähren* (1886); Nordmann's *Finnerna*

## PUBLIC NOTICE OF POOR EDITIONS.

IN view of the poor editions of many of the more popular authors, and the difficulty in keeping the volumes in condition for circulation, Mr. H. J. Carr, of the Scranton Public Library, has decided to insert in the catalogs and bulletins of that library the following notice:

"Because of the needless use of inferior paper, poor or worn-out type, and flimsy binding, publishers have to a degree made it impracticable for public libraries to continue the supply of certain books ordinarily in popular demand.

"Therefore, until the future issue of editions suitable and satisfactory for library purposes, works of the following named authors must be omitted from the stock and lists of this library":

A similar notice may also be inserted in the card catalog, immediately preceding the names of the authors in question.

This plan follows Mr. Crunden's suggestion in the March number of the JOURNAL, and it has probably been adopted in other libraries.

## POORLY BOUND BOOKS.

*From the 19th Report of the Peoria (Ill.) Public Library.*

THAT after some months of hard wear we should have to rebind a popular 12mo novel is not surprising, we expect it; but we ought not to have to rebind large and costly octavos and quartos after only half a dozen handlings—books bearing the imprint of old and reputable houses, beautiful to look at, but cheaply put together.

"Rip Van Winkle, as played by Joseph Jefferson," a \$5 octavo, stood nine issues before falling to pieces; Dean Worcester's "Philippine Islands," 530 octavo pages, \$4, stood eight issues; Hobson's "Sinking of the *Merri-mac*" stood six; "Miss America" three; Landor's "In the forbidden land," a sumptuously printed and illustrated octavo in two volumes, \$9, is a still more striking example of how a heavy volume should not be bound, at least not for a public library. Vol. I. has 307 pages of letter-press, besides title-page, contents, introduction, and a number of full-page illustrations, some 380 pages altogether. It is printed on the heaviest, double thick, enamelled paper, on a 32-page form, and weighs 3¼ pounds—a very heavy book. Each sheet, and consequently each section or signature into which the sheet is folded for binding, is, therefore, four times as thick and heavy as the sections of so large a book should be. There are only 12 sections to the book, when there should have been 30 to make the book bind well. In putting the book together, section by section, each of these thick sections should have been sewed "all along" to its adjoining section with strong linen thread, Hayes three-ply no. 16, and over tapes or bands laid across or sawn into the back, but nothing of this sort was done. There are no bands. The thread is of the slenderest, and the sewing is apparently by machine. Now, to this loosely put together body of the book a case-made cover is attached by gluing

a flimsy strip of cheese cloth or super over the rounded back of the book, the edges of the same, an inch wide, being pasted or glued on to the board covers. Excepting a strip of paper, this open woven cheese cloth is all that makes the joint to hold book and cover together, which the least careless handling, dropping the book on the floor, would be likely to tear apart. Both volumes are now in the bindery, fallen in pieces after seven issues. If we could not, even with such unwieldy sections, bind them better, they would be in the bindery half the time and we should be compelled to keep a double supply on hand.

I am not unaware of the presumable reason for using the extremely thick enamelled paper—to produce a better effect with half-tone pictures; and, just possibly, lacking matter enough to make a big book, the literary shortage was made good by the help of more wood pulp; but if the use of the heavy paper had been limited to the full-page inserted illustrations, as is done in *Harper's Magazine*, and a thinner paper used for the letter press work, with 12 or 16 page sections instead of 32, and with honest sewing and forwarding, this attractive looking work would not have been so suggestive of having been made only to sell. Books got up in this style should be supplied to libraries in sheets or in paper covers unbound, and at a lower price, leaving the libraries to bind them to suit their especial needs.

## THE NEWBERRY BLUE-PRINT CATALOG

THE Newberry Library, Chicago, has published a first volume of the ingenious and interesting blue-print catalog of British Museum accessions, devised by A. J. Rudolph and described by him in the LIBRARY JOURNAL, March, 1899 (p. 102). This catalog makes a handsome folio volume of 457 pages, two numbered columns to the page, substantially bound in half leather. It covers the subject Academies, and consists of a main or author division, in which entries are arranged in alphabetic order by places, and a useful index to societies and subjects, which has been cleverly devised by making typewritten "copy" which has been reproduced by the blue-print process; in the index reference is made to the number of the column in the main division. The volume is light for its size, and easily consulted. The blue-print pages are clear, and only a few blurred entries are noticeable. Indeed the curious volume seems to represent careful and painstaking work, and to promise good results in the application of this process along other lines for purposes of reproduction. It should have threefold interest: as an example of the practicability of Mr. Rudolph's process; as a guide to a mass of valuable material; and as an interesting partial bibliography of society or other serial publications. But 10 copies of this first volume have been printed, and it is pointed out that subscriptions by a few large libraries will aid in carrying through enterprises on these lines.



*Cleveland, O. Case L.* A children's corner, in which about 2000 selected books for young people are arranged on open shelves, was opened in the library Sept. 1.

The fourth annual exhibition of amateur photographic work will be held at the library from Nov. 20 to Dec. 2.

*Clinton, Me. Brown F. L.* The cornerstone of the Brown Memorial Free Library building, given to Clinton by W. W. Brown, of Portland, Me., was laid on Sept. 25, in the presence of a large audience. There was a public parade in honor of the event, and the stone was laid with Masonic exercises. Among the speakers were Gen. W. S. Choate, Rev. J. A. Weed, and W. W. Brown, the giver.

*Denver (Colo.) P. L.* On Sept. 1 the circulating department of the library was closed until it shall be reopened in the new building now being erected at 15th and Court streets. It is hoped that the opening may be held in October.

*Elmira, N. Y. Steele Memorial L.* The Steele Memorial Library, the first public library of Elmira, N. Y., was opened to the public on Aug. 1. The library was the gift to Elmira of Mrs. Esther B. Steele, and is a memorial to her husband, Dr. J. Dorman Steele. The gift includes the whole building, with offices on the lower floors, the rentals of which form an endowment. The library itself is handsomely fitted up in solid oak, and is marked by good taste and harmony throughout. The first floor contains the book-stacks, circulating desk, librarian's room, and reading-room. The upper floor, or balcony, is also supplied with tables and chairs for reading, and there are a number of book-stacks, which at present are not filled but are left for growth. Several of these stacks have been fitted up with glass doors, and Mrs. Steele has placed there many interesting curios from all over the world. Most of these Mrs. Steele herself has gathered together during her travels especially for the library.

The library is fortunate in having windows around two sides of the building, and a large skylight over the entire roof, so that it is blessed with plenty of light. The skylight is one of the beautiful features of the building, being of exquisite stained glass, with the monogram S. M. L. in the centre.

In addition to the complete library building, Mrs. Steele also gave about 5000 volumes, among which are some very valuable sets such as are usually found only in large libraries. The number has been increased by gifts, so that there are now over 6000 volumes on the shelves.

The circulation averages about 140 a day. Many of the leading periodicals are on the tables, and these also are a source of pleasure to many readers. The juvenile department is small at present, but the enthusiasm of the children is boundless, and it is hoped to make this department a growing feature of the work. We have faith to believe that the opening of a library here will mark a new era in the history of Elmira, and that its influence may be widespread and helpful in the years to come.

K. D. A.

*Evanston (Ill.) P. L.* (26th rpt. — year ending May 31, '99.) Added 1908; total 22,807. Issued, home use 83,959 (fict. 69.50%); school use 5736; ref. use 19,437; school ref. use 11,666. New registration 2276; cards in force 4302. Receipts \$10,447.37; expenses \$6616.19.

Especially notable is the increase in circulation, this being 20,888 over the preceding year, and a gain of 49,678 in two years. The work of the reference department is noted somewhat fully, much having been done to increase its efficiency by means of reference lists, bulletins, special collections, etc. Small libraries are sent out to the schools for both home and reference use. A "children's corner" in the library has proved of excellent effect, and the Library League, started in February, 1899, has resulted in a large increase in the number of cardholders among children; an improvement in the care of books has been noticed.

Several exhibitions were held during the year, including the successful anniversary of "library day."

*Indianapolis (Ind.) P. L.* (25th rpt., 1898-99.) Added 8330; total 89,554. Issued 430,676.

In May, 1899, the public card catalog was placed in the delivery room. In September a children's reading and delivery room was opened.

*Macon, Ga. Price L.* The Price Library, established by Mayor Price, is to be opened to the public on or about Nov. 15 with elaborate public exercises.

*Nashville, Tenn. Howard L.* The library has established a circulating department, charging a fee of \$2 a year for readers' cards permitting the home use of books. The free use of the library for reference and reading purposes will be continued.

*New York State L., Albany.* (Rpt. — year ending Sept. 30, '98.) A comprehensive and most interesting report, reviewing the varied activities of the great library system conducted at Albany. Special reports are made for the special departments of the library, and tabulations of staff, regulations, accessions, etc., are included. Mr. Dewey refers again to the need of enlarged space for the purposes of the library. "We have now over 150,000 volumes boxed for lack of shelving, and while every effort has been made to keep this accumulation out of sight by storing it in the basement and attic, the dilemma is growing daily more serious. It is impossible to hope for any increase of room in the present building. The only solution is an adequate fireproof building, to which our more than 400,000 volumes and our very large scientific collections can be removed. Before that building can be completed, even if it were started this year, we shall be seriously crippled in our work, and our usefulness to the public will be greatly diminished." The publications of the year are noted, with mention of the recently adopted plan for placing these upon public sale and thus extending their use.

The practice of supplying information to inquirers at a distance is referred to. "The

largest future development (and it is near at hand) is the increased use of the library by those at a distance who by mail or telegraph ask to have questions looked up to which they cannot get answers nearer home. The time is near when every prominent lawyer of the state will be connected with the library by long-distance telephone, and it has already been proved that a trained assistant in the law library, familiar with every bibliography, index, and other aid, can often find needed facts in half the time required by a lawyer, whose time may be many-fold more valuable." The manuscript, sociology, medicine, education, and history divisions are respectively reported upon. It is suggested that travelling libraries be maintained by the medicine division for physicians who should form clubs in order to secure medical literature in this way. In the library for the blind efforts are being made to reach persons of this class throughout the state and bring them into touch with the department.

The establishment of the children's library in 1898, on the fifth floor of the capitol building, is referred to as desirable in building up the library's surest constituency and in affording to students of the library school an opportunity for "actual practice on the vital problems" of children's reading. The new department is under the general direction of the vice-director of the school, who gives special instruction on the children's department and has supervision of the students, who, in rotation, take direct charge of the room and the children. "A very high standard must, of course, be maintained as to the quality of books admitted. The library will start by transferring the best children's books from the capitol library, and will be developed as means and the demand justify. The school has been making a large collection of catalogs, blanks and samples used in the various children's libraries of the country, and with a room in actual operation adjoining the class-rooms will have unequalled opportunities for studying this perhaps the most important problem in modern librarianship. In the new building provision must be made for adequate accommodations for this department. An observer would probably criticise the necessity of a children's room in a state library, thinking of the traditional library that supplied books of statistics to legislators and state officials, and musty tomes of law to the courts, but the state library of New York is in charge of the library interests of 7,000,000 people and has centres of activity scattered all over the state. When we know that the educational activity of libraries is largely dependent on the way the youngest readers are started no one can for a moment doubt either the propriety or the necessity of the new movement, which will give us facilities for studying this problem and for making known to all the libraries of the state the results both as to theories and methods and chiefly as to the books which will do the best public service when placed in the hands of the little ones."

*Newport, Vt. Goodrich Memorial L.* The library was dedicated on the evening of Sept.

1, when Hon. C. A. Prouty, in behalf of the trustees of the R. G. Goodrich estate, formally presented the building to the town. A short address was made by F. A. Howland, secretary of state, who represented the state library commission. The library is a two-story structure of brick with granite trimmings. It has shelf-room for 20,000 v., and 17,000 v. are already cataloged and on the shelves. The second floor is devoted to an art gallery, museum, trustees' room, etc., the library quarters being upon the first floor. The building cost \$25,000. R. G. Goodrich, to whose memory it was erected, left his entire estate of \$75,000 for building, equipping and maintaining the library.

*Ohio State L., Columbus.* The *Ohio Educational Monthly* for September contains an article by C. B. Galbreath, state librarian, on "The library movement, what Ohio has done and is doing," in which the work of the state travelling library system is described. During the first four months of 1899, 119 of these libraries, containing 3435 v., were sent out. Mr. Galbreath says: "It is gratifying to know that the rural schools of the state are now manifesting a lively interest in the travelling library."

*Oyster Bay (L. I.) P. L.* The cornerstone of the new library building was laid on Oct. 2 by Governor Roosevelt.

*Rensselaer, N. Y.* On Sept. 7 the Didymus Thomas Library Association was formed for the purpose of establishing and maintaining a free public library. The organization was due to the offer of Mrs. Wallace Francis, of Rensselaer, who agreed to duplicate any amount raised by the village for library purposes. It is hoped to secure about \$3000. Mrs. Francis also stipulated that the library be known as the Didymus Thomas Library.

*Springfield (Mass.) City L. A.* (38th rpt.—year ending May 2, '99.) A general summary of this report was given in *L. J.*, June, p. 274, at the time of its presentation. It is issued in a well-printed pamphlet, with illustrations and plans of the new science building, views of the Horace Smith art collection, and reproductions of the book-plates adopted for the endowed departments. The additions for the year are stated as 5667; the total 106,973. The library is now divided into six collections, "each more or less separate from the other, each requiring its own catalog, and each needing also to be included in the general catalog," i.e., the library proper of about 80,000 v. of general works; the collection of fiction and juvenile, about 20,000 v.; the David Ames Wells Economic Library, 3000 v.; the art library in the art museum, 700 v.; the library of the Horace Smith Hall of Sculpture, 100 v. and 300 photographs; the Catharine L. Howard memorial library of science in the science building. The report is chiefly devoted to a review of changes made in arrangement and equipment. More books for young people are needed, and the establishment of branches is suggested.

*Toledo (O.) P. L.* An author-guessing contest was recently held in the children's room of

the library. Portraits of well-known authors, accompanied by brief biographical notes, had for some time been arranged upon a burlap wall screen in the room. The names and biographical notes were then removed from the screen, each portrait was distinguished by a number, and a prize of a book was offered to the boy or girl who should correctly name the greatest number of portraits. About 100 children entered the competition, and the prize was won by a 13-year-old boy who named 34 out of the 40 authors. The prize was a volume, "Distinguished Americans," given by Dr. Hathaway, of the board of trustees. The one author that all the children seemed to recognize was Longfellow.

*Walkingford, Ct. Ladies' L. A.* The cornerstone of the new library building, to be erected from the bequest of the late Samuel Simpson, was laid on Sept. 21. There were elaborate exercises, with singing by 200 school children. The address of the occasion was made by President Hadley, of Yale.

*Webster City, Ia. Kendall Young L.* The library's report for the first year of its existence gives the following facts: total 3170, all of which were acquired during the year. Issued 26,009. Total income \$4534.

*West Chester (Pa.) F. L.* The refusal of the town council to vote an appropriation for the library's maintenance has resulted in its discontinuance as a free library. It will now be maintained on a subscription basis.

*Whitehall (Wis.) P. L.* The dedication of the library building on Sept. 14 was probably the most notable event in the history of this little village. Preparations for the day had been made long before, many of the shops were decorated with bunting, and the library room was adorned with golden-rod, flowers, and potted plants. The little building is situated on the main business street, between the railway station and the court-house. It is 20 x 30, one-storied, and the interior is a single reading and book room in one, without partitions. A "children's corner," with low shelves and small chairs and tables, has been arranged. A large collection of mounted pictures was made by the women of the village from magazines contributed by friends, colored photographs, and inexpensive reproductions, and these were arranged about the walls in groups relating to special subjects, accompanied by references to books on those subjects. The library now contains about 400 v., classified and cataloged by Miss Marvin, of the state commission, and is in charge of the proprietors of a photograph gallery adjoining; it is open each week day, morning and afternoon, and its use is free to the farmers in the vicinity as well as to the townspeople.

The dedication exercises were held in the afternoon in the Methodist church, when addresses were made by F. A. Hutchins, Senator Stout, Miss Stearns, Miss Marvin, Miss Tanner, Senator Withee, and others. In the evening a social meeting was held in the Workman's hall, followed by a supper. Of the 475 inhabitants of Whitehall nearly 400 were present,

with about 100 guests from other places. There was general speechmaking and music, including Scandinavian songs by the Pigeon Falls glee club, whose members drove 16 miles to take part in the celebration.

The history of the library is interesting. It was started 15 years ago as a subscription library, but of later years had been little used. In December, 1898, the state commission sent to the village a free travelling library on condition that the books of the local library be made free to the public. This was done, and in two weeks after the arrival of the travelling library the joint libraries had 160 borrowers. In February, 1899, Senator Levi Withee offered to give the village, through the state commission, a travelling library of its own, thus making the village one link in the chain of travelling libraries in the state, provided the village would support its own public library. The condition was accepted, and it was decided at the same time to have a home for the library. The people raised \$1600 for the purpose—the largest individual contributions being \$100, and a site for the building—\$100 of the sum being given by the farmers of the adjacent town of Lincoln at their town meeting. At the dedication the statement was made that there was not a family in Whitehall that had not contributed in some way to the library. "One poor washerwoman, who could give neither money nor books, gathered golden-rod with which to adorn the reading-room. The young man-of-all-work at the village inn gave a good 15-volume edition of Irving, his only possession in the book line, which he had expected to make the nucleus of his own library." The village is wholly composed of Norwegians.

#### FOREIGN.

*Birmingham (Eng.) P. L.* (37th rpt.—year ending March 31, '99.) Added, ref. l. 4400; total 142,960; issued 371,968; Sunday use 20,646. Additions to lending ls. not given; total 99,258; issued, home use 913,285. New cards issued 16,569; total cards in force 30,297.

In addition to the central reference and lending libraries there are nine branch libraries. During the year J. D. Mullins, chief librarian since May, 1865, retired, in accordance with the local superannuation provisions; he was succeeded by A. Capel Shaw, formerly sub-librarian.

*British Museum L.* The library's rich collection of books and other material relating to the French Revolution having been found to contain about 30,000 duplicates, it has been decided to offer these to the Bibliothèque Nationale. As a return for the courtesy, the authorities of the French library have determined to examine their own collection with a view to presenting to the museum any duplicates of works of English interest or importance.

*Clerkenwell (Eng.) P. L.* (Rpt.—15 months ending March 31, '99.) Added 1382; total 18,256. Issued, home use 128,334; ref. use 19,932; Sunday use 1858. Visits to news-rooms 1430. Adult borrowers 3214.

## PUBLIC NOTICE OF POOR EDITIONS.

IN view of the poor editions of many of the more popular authors, and the difficulty in keeping the volumes in condition for circulation, Mr. H. J. Carr, of the Scranton Public Library, has decided to insert in the catalogs and bulletins of that library the following notice:

"Because of the needless use of inferior paper, poor or worn-out type, and flimsy binding, publishers have in a degree made it impracticable for public libraries to continue the supply of certain books ordinarily in popular demand.

"Therefore, until the future issue of editions suitable and satisfactory for library purposes, works of the following named authors must be omitted from the stock and lists of this library":

A similar notice may also be inserted in the card catalog, immediately preceding the names of the authors in question.

This plan follows Mr. Crunden's suggestion in the March number of the JOURNAL, and it has probably been adopted in other libraries.

## POORLY BOUND BOOKS.

*From the 19th Report of the Pooria (Ill.) Public Library.*

THAT after some months of hard wear we should have to rebind a popular 12mo novel is not surprising, we expect it; but we ought not to have to rebind large and costly octavos and quartos after only half a dozen handlings—books bearing the imprint of old and reputable houses, beautiful to look at, but cheaply put together.

"Rip Van Winkle, as played by Joseph Jefferson," a \$5 octavo, stood nine issues before falling to pieces; Dean Worcester's "Philippine Islands," 530 octavo pages, \$4, stood eight issues; Hobson's "Sinking of the *Merri-mac*" stood six; "Miss America" three; Landor's "In the forbidden land," a sumptuously printed and illustrated octavo in two volumes, \$9, is a still more striking example of how a heavy volume should not be bound, at least not for a public library. Vol. I. has 307 pages of letter-press, besides title-page, contents, introduction, and a number of full-page illustrations, some 380 pages altogether. It is printed on the heaviest, double thick, enamelled paper, on a 32-page form, and weighs 3½ pounds—a very heavy book. Each sheet, and consequently each section or signature into which the sheet is folded for binding, is, therefore, four times as thick and heavy as the sections of so large a book should be. There are only 12 sections to the book, when there should have been 30 to make the book bind well. In putting the book together, section by section, each of these thick sections should have been sewed "all along" to its adjoining section with strong linen thread, Hayes three-ply no. 16, and over tapes or bands laid across or sawn into the back, but nothing of this sort was done. There are no bands. The thread is of the slenderest, and the sewing is apparently by machine. Now, to this loosely put together body of the book a case-made cover is attached by gluing

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CARLTON, William Newnham, of Hartford, Ct., has been appointed librarian of Trinity College in that city. Mr. Carlton was for six years assistant in the Holyoke (Mass.) Public Library, and since 1892 has been assistant in the Watkinson Library of Hartford.

CASS-CHASE. Miss Florence P. Chase, cataloger at the Public Documents Library, Washington, D. C., formerly cataloger at the Grand Rapids Public Library and at the St. Louis Public Library, was married on Oct. 4 to Mr. Philip H. Cass, of Coffeyville, Kan.

DICKEY, Miss Helene Louise, of the New York State Library School, class of 1898-99, has been elected librarian of the Chicago Normal School.

DUNTON, Miss C. Augusta, has severed her connection with the North Adams (Mass.) Public Library, of which she had been appointed associate librarian, with Miss Mabel Temple as librarian. Miss Dunton had served as librarian since the establishment of the library, about 16 years ago, and it was understood by the trustees that she would continue her services as associate without reduction of salary. Her resignation is regretted by those familiar with her long and conscientious service.

FICHTENKAM, Miss Alice, cataloger in the St. Louis (Mo.) Public Library, has been appointed cataloger in the office of the Superintendent of Documents, Washington. Miss Fichtenkam is the fourth assistant in the St. Louis Library who has within the last three years been successful in the civil service examination for vacancies in the Public Documents Library.

HITCHCOCK, Miss Julia A., librarian of the Reuben McMillan Free Library of Youngstown, O., has resigned her position, owing to ill-health. Miss Hitchcock was one of the organizers and incorporators of the old library association which was merged in the present organization, and since 1880, when the library was established, she has served continuously as librarian, except for a two-years' absence in California. About three months ago she was obliged to retire, owing to ill-health, but it was hoped that she would again be able to take up the work. She has been devoted to the library's interests, and as a member of the board of trustees will still keep in touch with its work. She has been succeeded by Miss Minnie Gibson, who has been connected with the library since 1883 and has served as acting librarian for some time past.

HOLCOMB, Miss Caroline E., of the New York State Library School, class of 1898-99, has been appointed assistant librarian of the Beardsley Library, West Winsted, Ct.

KROGH, Andrew, formerly sub-librarian of the Newcastle-upon-Tyne (Eng.) Public Library, and later connected with a Chicago bookselling firm, has been appointed librarian in charge of the Linnion and Brothers' Library of Yale University.

MIERSCH, Miss Ella E., graduate of New York State Library School, class of '99, has

been appointed librarian of the Southbridge (Mass.) Public Library, succeeding Miss Stanley.

PARHAN, Miss Susan E., has been elected librarian of the Bloomington (Ill.) Public Library. Miss Parhan is a graduate of the University of Illinois Library School, and has been for some months past engaged in the cataloging department of the University of Pennsylvania.

REED, Dr. George E. Question has been raised, according to the Philadelphia *North American*, regarding the combination by Dr. G. E. Reed, of the two offices of state librarian of Pennsylvania and president of Dickinson College, Carlisle. It is said that the trustees of the college desire that more time should be given to its work than the duties of state librarian permit, as an increase in its endowment fund is needed. The possibility of Dr. Reed's appointment to the office of State Superintendent of Public Instruction, upon the expiration of the present officer's term in 1900, is also noted.

ROOT, A. S., librarian of Oberlin College, has returned from his sabbatical year, which he spent in the University of Göttingen and in travel. He studied the history of printing and also bibliography under Professor Dziatzko, and Latin paleography with Professor Wilhelm Meyer. He also studied the methods of the German book trade at Leipzig, and later visited the principal libraries of Germany and England.

SAXTON, Miss Gertrude, assistant in the Los Angeles (Cal.) Public Library, has been appointed librarian of the Washington State University, Spokane.

STECHELT, Gustav E., the well-known New York book importer, died suddenly at his home in Brooklyn, N. Y., on Sept. 25. Mr. Stechert, who was born in Potsdam, Prussia, on Aug. 6, 1840, had been a familiar figure in the New York book trade for over 25 years, and had especially developed his relations with libraries, universities, and similar institutions. He had been a member of the American Library Association since 1877, had attended many of its conferences, and had many friends among library people. It is understood that the business will be continued by Alfred Hafner and Mr. Stechert's family without change of name. Mr. Stechert leaves a widow, a married daughter, and three sons.

THOMAS, Miss Anna B., has been appointed assistant librarian of the Reuben McMillan Free Library, Youngstown, O., succeeding Miss Mabel Bradshaw, resigned.

WHITTIER, Josiah Herbert, secretary of the New Hampshire State Library Commission, died at the home of his father in Deerfield, N. H., on Sept. 13. Mr. Whittier was born in Deerfield, April 25, 1860, and had for 17 years been connected with the Cocheco Woollen Manufacturing Co., of East Rochester, N. H. He had long been identified with the library

interests of the state, and was largely instrumental in the framing and adoption of the New Hampshire library law of 1895, by which the establishment of libraries was practically made compulsory, while his efforts to increase the number and develop the efficiency of New Hampshire libraries were untiring and enthusiastic. Mr. Whittier had been a member of the A. L. A. since 1894, and was actively identified with the New Hampshire Library Association.

### Cataloging and Classification.

THE BOSTON BOOK CO. has issued volume 1 of its *Bulletin of Bibliography* in substantial bound form. This covers the 10 numbers published at intervals from April, 1897, to July, 1899, and contains material of much value in reference work, such as the reading list on animals, list of books first published in periodicals, reading list on library buildings, and the numerous bibliographies on varied subjects.

**DECIMAL CLASSIFICATION.** At a recent meeting of the Ohio Library Association the reports from a circular of inquiry sent to 120 libraries asking what classification was used showed that 53 used the Decimal system, 30 all other systems, while the remainder did not report.

**DETROIT (Mich.)** P. L. General catalogue: second supplement, 1894-1898. Detroit, 1899. 6 + 860 p. 1 O.

The Detroit Public Library is again to be congratulated upon this well-made and substantial continuation of its general catalog, in which the accessions of the last five years are recorded. The style and arrangement of the previous volumes are followed, and the care and good work shown make this like its predecessors a valuable model and reference tool in other libraries, as well as most useful in its immediate field.

**ENOCH PRATT F. L. OF BALTIMORE CITY.** Finding list, Central Library. Sixth edition, part 2: Language and literature (works in foreign languages, etc.) Baltimore, August, 1899. 8 p. + p. 311-492. O.

THE FITCHBURG (Mass.) P. L. *Bulletin* for September contains a reference list on Schubert, Wagner, and the romantic school of music.

**GATTIKER, Emma, comp.** One hundred popular German books for small public libraries, suggested by the Wisconsin Free Library Commission. Madison, Wis., 1899. 4 p.

Gives prices and publishers, and refers to catalogs and lists useful in more extended selection of German books; about 30 titles are starred, indicating a desirable first choice.

**INTERNATIONAL CATALOGUE OF SCIENTIFIC LITERATURE.** The Institut International de Bibliographie has issued fasc. 1-2 of its *Bulletin* for 1899, which is devoted to an "Examen du projet de la Société Royale de Londres con-

cernant le catalogue international des sciences." This comprises observations upon bibliographical questions connected with the plan—such as the aim of the catalog, its form, methods for the collection and preparation of material, the classification and notation proposed—by the executive committee of the institute; a criticism of the proposed classification of physiology, by Charles Richet; and a general review of the classification, with special reference to zoology, by H. H. Field, of the Concilium Bibliographicum, Zurich. It is also published as a pamphlet, entitled "Le projet de catalogue international des sciences de la Société Royale de Londres: observations présentées par l'Institut International de Bibliographie." The analysis of the society's project is detailed and the conclusions are on the whole unfavorable.

— International catalogue of scientific literature. (*In Science*, Aug. 11, 1899. 10:165-174.)

Consists of the report of a committee appointed by President Low, of Columbia University, and criticisms of the International Catalogue by various members of Columbia's faculty.

THE N. Y. P. L. *Bulletin* in its August issue contained Part 2 of the valuable check list on "Fish and fisheries." The special list in the September number was devoted to books on needlework, lace, etc. The printing of important manuscripts was continued in August with the Calhoun-Gouverneur correspondence of 1823-36, and in September with manuscripts touching the Canada campaigns of 1773 and '76 and the Mexican revolution of 1823.

THE NEWARK (N. J.) FREE PUBLIC LIBRARY issues the August-September of its *Library News* for "the boys and girls of Newark," listing a selection of the juvenile books in the library. It is an excellent list, simple and attractive, classed under such headings as "Bits of good advice," "Out-of-door books," "Sea stories and the U. S. Navy," etc., and including many story-books (Henty, Munroe, etc.) among the history, travel, biography, and other classes.

PEABODY INSTITUTE LIBRARY (Baltimore) has issued Part 4 (H-K) of its "Second catalogue." This makes a volume of about 600 pages (running from p. 2007 to p. 2620 inclusive), and is in all respects similar to the other volumes of this well-known catalog. As a specimen of cataloging in detail, it may be noted that in the case of Ford's edition of the "Writings" of Thomas Jefferson, in nine volumes, the "contents" entries for these volumes fill 33 two-column pages, closely printed in small type.

**SALEM (Mass.)** P. L. Class list no. 7: Books for young people. Salem, June, 1899. 6 + 94 p. O.

The general classes are followed by an author list of fiction; then comes an author list of fairy tales, folklore, legends; title list of fiction and fairy tales, etc.; author index to general classes and index of subjects. The plan of arrangement and the headings used—as Zoology, Biology, Sociology, etc.—seem rather lacking in simplicity for children's use.

The SALEM (Mass.) P. L. *Bulletin* for September devotes its special reading list to Nathaniel Hawthorne.

The SAN FRANCISCO (Cal.) F. P. L. *Bulletin* for September contains a special list on "Ornament and the decorative arts" (5½ p.).

The SAN FRANCISCO MECHANICS' INSTITUTE *Bulletin* for September contains a seven-page reference list of books on architecture.

TACOMA (Wash.) P. L. Catalogue of the Public Library and the Mason branch library; published by authority of the City Council. Tacoma, Wash., 1899. 300 p.

The first appearance of this catalog is deceptive, for it is attractively printed on good paper; but in its construction carelessness and ignorance appear to have had a fairly equal share. It is an author, title, and subject list in one alphabet, and includes, in addition to the separate catalogs of the main library and the Mason branch, a supplementary 32-page list of books added up to March 18, 1899. It is marked by most of the signs of incompetent cataloging—careless alphabetizing, misspelt names, typographical errors, and entire lack of adequate subject entries. Thus 14 volumes of Barnes' "Notes" on various books of the Old and New Testaments appear only under the author and under "Notes"; Northrop's "Queen of republics" goes under "Queen," with no entry for United States; the "Reliques of Father Prout" appears only under R; Plutarch's lives in Clough's translation is duly given under Plutarch, but the Langhorne edition appears only in the L's; and La Fontaine's fables are entered only under the translator. A few entries noted in a brief examination include "The life of Lorenzo de Medici called Magnificat," "Zabina Zimbra," Shipton's "Waiting hours with the Hungary," Tennyson's "Bucket," Meredith's "Egotist" and "Richard Feveril," and Burroughs' "Pepaction."

#### FULL NAMES.

CAPT. O. M. CARTER. Oberlin Matthias Carter appears in the Government catalog ("Comprehensive Index") for the period July 1, 1895—June 30, 1896, as author of engineer reports and translator of a German treatise on "Influence of sea-water on hydraulic mortars." In the *Congressional Record*, v. 30, p. 2838, when nominated, and p. 2956, when confirmed (July, 1897), as a member of the Nicaragua Canal Commission, the form used is Oberlin Mathies Carter. In "Who's who in America" it is Oberlin Montgomery Carter, and a recent letter from the captain himself confirms the latter version. This is the Captain Carter whose case in court-martial has filled so much space in the papers.

F. A. C.

The following are supplied by the Catalogue Department, Library of Congress:

Barnes, Louisa Ellen (Mrs. Arthur J. Barnes) (Barnes' complete typewriting instructor);

Berkey, Jacob Maurer (The new manual and guide for teachers);

Boswell, George Copeland, ed. (The Litchfield book of days);

Campbell, William Taylor (Observational geometry);

Coe, Edward Benton (Life indeed);

Crook, James King (The mineral waters of the United States and their therapeutic uses);

Dysart, Joseph Patterson (Grace Porter);

Edminster, Clothier Franklin (Architectural drawing);

Ellis, George Huntington (Analysis of white paints);

Harrington, Vernon Charles (The problem of human suffering);

Hawthorne, James Boardman (The unshaken trust and other sermons);

Henschen, George Newton Cressy (Studies of Pottstown);

Hollopeter, William Clarence (Hay fever and its successful treatment);

Johnson, Samuel Arthur, comp. (Colorado school law);

Knopf, Siegmund Adolph (Pulmonary tuberculosis);

Murch, Artemas Allerton (The story of the prayer book);

Porter, Robert Peel (Industrial Cuba);

Standen, William Thomas (A bundle of straws);

Waymire, John Wildy (Questions on U. S. history);

Williams, Thaddeus Warsaw (In quest of life);

Wingard, Emanuel Albert (Echoes and other poems);

Woerner, John Gabriel (A treatise on the American law of administration).

The following are supplied by Harvard College Library:

Bernard, Charles Henry Louis Napoléon, and Leon Ernest (Visible French pronunciation exemplified in progressive French reader);

Brown, Calvin Smith, ed. (The later English drama);

Cram, George Franklin (Cram's standard American railway system atlas);

Drinkhouse, Edward Jacob (History of Methodist reform);

Duffield, John Davis (Address at the foreign policy conference held at Saratoga, N. Y., Aug. 19, 1898);

Dutton, Samuel Train (Social phases of education in the school and the home);

Hutchinson, Warren Beecher, and Criswell, James A. Ekin (Patents and how to make money out of them);

Jennings, Simeon Hinman (Interest tables);

Pettigrove, Frederick George (A manual for prison officials);

Sage, Xenophon La Motte (Hypnotism as it is);

Sheldon, Charles Monroe (In his steps);

Spencer, William Henry (Historical discourse del. at re-dedication of Baptist meeting-house, Foxborough, Mass.);

Sprague, Frank Headley (Spiritual consciousness);

Sturges, Charles Mathews (An open letter to Hon. G. F. Hoar, Jan. 10, 1899);

Turner, Henry Ward (Further contributions to the geology of the Sierra Nevada).

## Bibliography.

**CHILD STUDY.** Louis, N. Bibliography of child study for 1898. (*In Pedagogical Seminary*, September, 1899. 6:386-410.)

Arranged alphabetically by author and annotated, with a subject index. 333 titles are included.

**EDUCATION.** Hazlitt, W. Carew. Farther contributions toward a history of earlier education in Great Britain. (*Continued in The Antiquary*, September, 1899. 35:261-267.)

**ELECTRICITY.** Leiner's Elektrotechnischer Katalog: die Litteratur der Elektrotechnik, Elektrizität, Elektrochemie, des Magnetismus, der Telegraphie, Telephonie, Blitzschutzvorrichtung, Röntgen-Strahlen, sowie der Carbid- u. Acetylenindustrie der J. 1884 bis 1899. (Geschlossen am 1. VII. 1899.) Mit Schlagwortregister. 4. Auflage. Leipzig, Oskar Leiner, 1899. 102 p. 8°. 1 m.

**MILITARY SCIENCE.** Pohler, J. Bibliotheca historico-militaris, Systematische Übersicht der Erscheinungen aller Sprachen auf dem Gebiete der Geschichte der Kriege und Kriegswissenschaft seit Erfindung der Buchdruckerkunst bis zum Schlusse des J. 1880. Band 4. Leipzig, Georg Lang, 1899. 983 p. 8°. 37 m.

**NORTH CAROLINA.** Bassett, J. Spencer. Slavery in North Carolina. (*In Johns Hopkins studies in historical and political science*, July-Aug., 1899. Series 17, nos. 7-8. 111 pp.) Contains a 2-page bibliography.

**PHYSIOLOGY.** Bibliographia universalis quae auspiciis instituti bibliographici internationalis Bruxellensis editur. Bibliographia physiologica (016:612) quam auxiliis J. Athanasii, J. Carvallo, C. Dupuy, G. Manca et Concilii bibliographici edit C. Richet. Nova series, vol. 1, no. 5, 1897. Zurich, Concilium Bibliographicum, 1899. 129-191 p. 8°, pap.

**POETRY.** James, C. Caniff. A bibliography of Canadian poetry (English). Toronto Published for the [Victoria University] Library by William Briggs, 1899. 72 p. O. (Victoria University Library, publication no. 1.) pap., \$1.

This interesting little bibliography is based on a collection of about 400 volumes and pamphlets gathered by Mr. James during the past 10 years and now in the library of Victoria University; additional information from libraries and other sources has also been sought

for. The result is a list of nearly 400 persons who have contributed to Canadian verse—a showing that is rather a surprise in its extent. Many, probably the majority, of the contributions noted are ephemeral, for the field seems to have been carefully gleaned, but among familiar names are Grant Allen, Bliss Carman, Palmer Cox, W. H. Drummond, Sara Jeannette Duncan, Archibald Lampman, Gilbert Parker, C. G. D. Roberts, George John Romanes, Duncan Campbell Scott, and Goldwin Smith. Wherever possible, brief biographical annotations are given, and some effort seems to have been made to secure full names, though not with general success. Appended to the author list, which forms the bibliography proper, is a list of anonymous publications (41 titles) with references to authors when known, annotated lists of anthologies of Canadian poetry and of magazine articles on Canadian poets, a list of such articles in the *Canadian Magazine*, and a list of "Pen-names of Canadian poets." The bibliography should be serviceable for reference or cataloging use, and is also of literary interest. It is published in an edition of 200 copies

**SOUTH CAROLINA.** McCrady, Edward. The history of South Carolina under the royal government, 1719-1776. N. Y., Macmillan, 1899. 28 + 847 p. 12°.

Contains a 5-page list of authorities.

**X RAYS.** Barker, George F., ed. Röntgen rays: memoirs by Röntgen, Stokes, and J. J. Thomson. N. Y., Harper & Bros., 1899. 7+76 p. 12°, (Harper's scientific memoirs.) 60 c. Contains a one-page bibliography.

## INDEXES.

**RENAUT, F. W., comp.** Collective index of the Journal of the Society of Chemical Industry, from 1882 to 1895, vols. 1-14. Lond., Eyre & Spottiswoode, 1899. 552 p. 4°, pap.

Arranged in two parts, author and subject; there are two columns to the page.

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CHIEFLY DEVOTED TO

**Library Economy and Bibliography**

VOL. 24. NO. 11

NOVEMBER, 1899

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It has not been easy to ruffle the placid surface of the A. L. A., even by discussion of questions such as open shelves, which offer stirring battle-cries to our English brethren; but perhaps the reactionary principles underlying Mr. Swift's paper, as also Dr. Wire's recent paper, may provoke something of a breeze, and even a wholesome storm, at some future conference. The advocates of guiding the reading of the people, for adults as well as for children, will scarcely be prepared to admit that they are guilty of paternalism in the critical meaning of the word, and certainly whatever is done in that direction is done from the highest missionary impulse. There are those, however, who consider that the missionary impulse sometimes leads devotees, even in such a worthy cause as that of the library profession, into narrowness of faith and act, and that there is danger of carrying even a good thing too far. Mr. Swift represents that criticism, hitherto not fully voiced or generally recognized, in the line of a reaction, perhaps not altogether unwholesome, against a principle which is in some cases carried too far. In any event it is well for the library profession that both sides should be heard within its ranks, and the LIBRARY JOURNAL is certainly the proper place for a free parliament in which both sides may have an open field.

ANOTHER symptom of reaction is shown in the criticism expressed editorially by the *Overland Monthly* on the benefactions of Mr. Carnegie, who, as a matter of principle, has always made it a rule to couple with his great gifts the condition that the people should co-operate by supporting the libraries for which he is willing to provide the original housing and equipment, the only exceptions being, we believe, in the cases of Homestead and Braddock, directly connected with the Carnegie enterprises, where there is also given a fund for maintenance. Certainly Mr. Carnegie is to be commended for seeking to join the people in co-operation with himself in providing for the future of a library,

his belief being evidently that in this way the best results are permanently to be secured. The *Overland Monthly* goes so far as to say, however, that "there is nothing to be said for free books that could not be urged in favor of free beefsteaks and free overcoats," and in this view it accuses men like Mr. Carnegie of surrounding their benefactions "by socialistic conditions." It is, of course, extremely difficult to draw a clear line of demarcation between co-operation within a community by taxation, coupled with benefactions for the good of the public, on one side, and socialism or the use of public means for personal direction and gratification on the other hand. Usually public libraries have been reckoned with public parks as falling properly within the sphere of public action and not extending over the borders into socialism. Mr. Swift might fairly say that one result of an extreme "paternalism" might be to provoke a reaction against free libraries themselves, and such a view would be confirmed by the position expressed by the *Overland Monthly*.

THE retirement of Edward Capen into the position of librarian emeritus at the Haverhill Public Library, after many years spent in its service, closes nearly half a century of active library work, which his friends of the library association hope may be followed by a happy and fruitful leisure. Mr. Capen's term of service dates back to 1852, as many years before the formation of the American Library Association as his years of active work since. It is given to few men to live through a great movement from seed-time to harvest, and not many are able to adapt themselves to the new conditions which prevail at the two ends of a half-century. No calling has within that time undergone more change, in a direction of fruitful development, than library work, and Mr. Capen's professional career has been happy in that it has bridged from the time of the first library conference to and beyond the great International Conference of 1897, which marked

the recognition in the capital of the civilized world of librarianship as internationally one of the great professions.

### Communications.

#### CAUTION.

I wish to warn librarians against loaning money to a plausible young fellow named Will A. Strong, who worked in the Cleveland Public Library a short time several years ago. He is unworthy of credit.

PUBLIC LIBRARY, }  
Cleveland, Ohio. }

W. H. BRETT.

#### PUBLIC DOCUMENTS.

HERE is another case of misfits, even under our amended laws relating to public documents. The following series, some or all of them, are sent regularly to depository or remainder libraries which have no use for them. They can only be obtained by purchase for law libraries, which are the only ones using them. Some of them come to my next-door neighbor, the American Antiquarian Society, which has no call for them and no use for them, while if we want them we have to pay and pay roundly for them:

Decisions of Comptroller of Currency.  
Decisions of First Comptroller of Currency.  
Revised statutes.  
Statutes at large.  
Attorney-General's decisions.  
Land Office decisions.  
Court of Claims reports.

The United States Supreme Court Reports are published by private parties and sold through the trade at a good figure. I hope some attention will be drawn to these anomalies, especially by law and state librarians, with a view to remedying them.

DR. G. E. WIRE.

WORCESTER COUNTY LAW LIBRARY, }  
Worcester, Mass. }

#### THE NEWBERRY BLUE-PRINT CATALOG.

IT has been interesting to examine the recent product of the Rudolph blue-print process for printing catalogs. The varying distinctness (respectively indistinctness) of the white print on dark ground is somewhat trying to the eyes and unfavorable to fairly rapid search for a given entry. It is possible to produce that volume (for which the Newberry Library asks \$50 with 20 per cent. off = \$40 net), from the original printed slips, mounted on sheets, for considerably less:

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The allowance (\$10) for indexing may seem inadequate, but Mr. Rudolph's "Index to academies" of 264 columns really needs to be cut down to less than one-third, eliminating the "subject" features, which have led to confusion. The few subject-headings, cross-references, and catchword title entries of a number of monographs, sprinkled at random among the curiously inverted names of societies, do not make a subject index to the contents of the publications of societies, which seems to have been half consciously aimed at; they only serve to obscure the legitimate object of the index and make its use for finding the names of societies cumbersome. Much painstaking work has been wasted on that index; the proofreading was very careful; but why index

Printing types, Historic. *Grolier Club.*

Printed books, Dept. of. *Brit. Mus.*

English printers, Hand lists of.

*Bibliog. Soc.*

(no reference under "Printers" for the latter) when Haebler's "Early printers of Spain," Redgrave's "Erhard Ratdolt," and thousands of books of greater, or at least equal, importance to those given had to be left unindexed because they are concealed under entries like

Bibliographical Society: Illus.  
monographs. 1894, etc.

*In progress.*

References like

San Luca, Disegno di, Accad. del.  
(Rome)

almost amount to "humors of indexing." And

Art, Livres d', Encouragement  
pour la propagation des,  
Soc. d'. (Paris)

and scores of other entries look queer, to say the least.

Sociedad filatélica sud-americana. (Lima)  
is entered only under

Sud-Americana, Soc. Filatélica,  
no references being made under Filatélica, nor under Philatelic, nor Sociedad. There is no need to multiply examples to show that my criticism above is well founded.

As to the cost: The British Museum, it is understood, will reprint its entire catalog, including accessions, in one alphabet, within three or four years, at a cost to subscribers of possibly not over \$150 (£30). The Rudolph blue-print catalog, Accessions only, 1880-1900, would cost, at \$30 per vol. (\$10 per vol. deducted for estimated cost of index), about \$1500.

Photography applied to the printing of catalogs has been thought practicable by people entitled to confidence in library matters, but the results of the blue-print process attained so far show it to be still in an unprofitable experimental stage and do not warrant any claims of "having done it."

CHARLES MARTEL.

LIBRARY OF CONGRESS, }  
Washington, D. C. }

## PATERNALISM IN PUBLIC LIBRARIES.\*

BY LINDSAY SWIFT, *Boston Public Library.*

I HAVE been cordially advised not to address you on the large topic of paternalism lest perchance I shall not be "understood," and shall be thought reactionary or subversive, as you chance to take me. Let me, notwithstanding, appeal frankly to your fairmindedness while for a time I may seem to block, with my own unimportance, the jostling van of progress. It is not my purpose to enter the question of state aid or supervision over towns; I merely wish to inquire into some of the working ideals of to-day as they are applicable to libraries, and consider whether they are or should be acceptable to us of a diligent and exacting profession. There is certainly in the air a large faith in the power of organization and a fervid desire to serve and uplift humanity by co-operation. The power of the individual is lessened, and social and institutional machinery is running at full speed. Chautauqua assemblies, federations of women, free lectureships, public baths, college settlements—a series of varied attempts have gained recognition and already won a measure of success.

It is not strange that the common impulse should be affecting so important a feature of our life as the public library. We surely cannot think to arrest the huge driving-wheels of any forward movement, but in this particular matter each of us has a measure of responsibility. We are part of the force which drives, not of the passive substance which is being driven, and we should fully recognize the part which we are called upon to play.

Until a few years ago the chief duty of a library consisted in the purchase, or acceptance by gift, of worthy books, in constructing a proper catalog, in providing shelfroom, in making as rapid a delivery as possible of books to the public, and in giving efficient service and courteous personal assistance. While these methods have not been superseded, but rather improved, there has unquestionably been grafted on the simple library scheme of former years a new theory which, for want of a better name, since the thing itself is vague and indefinable, we may call paternalism. It has been expected of us that we should fall into line with the prevailing ideas of social melioration, bear our part of the

load, and develop on so-called modern lines. We have come into more direct relations with other work, and in particular with public schools. The idea has even sprung up that the library is an educational institution. It has been necessary to look for advice and assistance from outside our immediate membership, and we are also relying as never before on mutual aid and comfort, through the medium of the American Library Association, local library clubs, and the various library schools.

If ours is really a profession it is, through this gradual reliance on external relations, doing something practically unknown in other professions. Law, medicine, or theology does not look outside its own domain for development or assistance, and these professions are not interdependent. I suppose that the answer would be that this is an age of experiment and transition, and that we must not be too impatient for immediate results. Do you remember how Carlyle used to hate that phrase, an "age of transition"? Every age imagines itself to be peculiarly burdened with problems; but the old world turns around in much the same way, and each day brings its share of trouble. Every generation has its egotism, and harbors this notion of engaging to lift the social burden by widely diversified effort.

Just as a lawyer or doctor runs his own professional affairs, so until lately we were accustomed to conduct ours; but this practice is altered. The feeling is that specialists in other professions can wisely co-operate with us. This is probably true if such specialists will come under our roofs and form a part of the larger system, but not, I hold, otherwise. Only a relative importance need be attached to professional or expert service. It is not our affair as public librarians to lean prejudicially in favor of or against any particular science or pseudoscience. Libraries are as much the depositories of the folly as of the wisdom of the ages. A professional man is more or less bound by the fetishes of his own generation. A doctor, for instance, to whom may be entrusted the choice of books, would in all probability look with disfavor on, though he might not reject, books running counter to his deepest convictions. He regards as dangerous to the community pre-

\* Paper read before Massachusetts Library Club, at Fitchburg, Oct. 26, 1899.

vailing insanities which pass under the names of Christian or Mental Science, Spiritualism, Theosophy, and Occultism. They are to him evidences of degeneration, and his sincerity and courage cannot be questioned if he wishes to control the tide surging in the direction of charlatans. But he may easily go a little further, and set his foot down on such books as Hudson's "The law of psychic phenomena," or Nordau's "Degeneration," convinced that it would be just as well if the people "did not read that sort of thing." I do not see how any one can have reached mature years without the conviction that "professional" opinion counts for little outside its own more or less narrow limits; that scientific men are sometimes woefully restricted, not so much in their opinions as in their outlook.

Specialists are an exaggerated type of the professional mind; they have trained themselves to reject all extraneous knowledge, and look with small forbearance on "popular" or unparticularized information. The process of elimination would be carried to a dangerous limit were libraries entrusted to the tender mercies of these highly sensitive intelligences. They see a part of the problem with astonishing clearness, but they do not, because they cannot, grasp the entire problem of *storing* the evidences of human growth. Osteopathy and faith cure are as offensive, very likely, to the most of us as to the medical faculty, but so once were vaccination and inoculation. It is fortunate, however, that all the literature on these topics was not confided to the fostering care of its honest enemies in the past. Christian Science appears to be a vast and menacing humbug to-day, but so transcendentalism and anti-slavery appeared a half century since. If you refuse a plant the chance to thrive in the sunlight it will seek to live in noxious and hidden places. Oliver Wendell Holmes, at the dedication of the new public library building in Boston, wrote,

"Let in the Light,"

and the good doctor really meant to welcome everything, except homœopathy—that he never could stand or understand.

I cannot see how other professional restriction differs from theological restriction. The world has certainly combatted ecclesiastical domination with some measure of success; but how shall we fairly decry the influence of priestcraft if we concede the right of any other interference with perfect intellectual freedom? I

would not intentionally exaggerate the situation. Nobody to-day deliberately purposes to subjugate freedom in public libraries, but there is nevertheless a tendency to regulate and decide for others, which is antipathetic to the democratic principle of least possible government.

One subtle form of paternalism is the deliberate inculcation of the patriotic spirit, especially in children. Dr. Johnson said that patriotism is the last refuge of a scoundrel, but sometimes it seems as if it were the first resort of an ignoramus. I shall not attempt to define the word, but every one of us, I fancy, is ready to admit that a sound patriotism is a good thing, or rather that it *may* be a good thing. If I were a Frenchman I should be sceptical, just at present, as to how good a thing it might be. Many worthy persons now sojourning in the snows of Siberia entertain serious doubts as to the value of Russian patriotism. And so it goes elsewhere. But here there can be no doubt, at least in the minds of school teachers and library folks, about patriotism as a cult. The little boys who daily run up the flag of their country in the school yard, and sing "America"—and gaze delightedly at Mr. Zogbaum's pictures in the libraries of Yankee sailors doing nothing with incredible skill and celerity—they have no doubts. Theirs is not the critical attitude. "My country right or wrong" is a good enough cry for them. I am not about to enter on a discussion of the Philippine question, but I am constrained to ask how far it behooves us to further a sentiment almost as deeply planted and almost at times as unreasonable and misguided as merely instinctive maternal love? One phase only of this patriotic craze has direct concern for us—the teaching of American history and American literature.

I have had excellent opportunities for some years past of meeting, in a large and intelligent population, directly with children in their efforts to supplement their school tasks with the resources of a library. I am free to admit that the experience has not been entirely happy. Except in the higher schools, some really admirable results of which have come under my eyes, there appears to be excessive attention paid to the more obvious phases of American history without just recognition of the relations of things. The lives of famous Americans are pushed forward to the exclusion of the greatness of other men of other times and other



countries. I should expect to find this method in Germany, and in fact it is there pursued. But to fill a child with the consummate virtues of Washington, Jefferson, and other of our immortals, and to leave him ignorant of the greatness of Cromwell and of William the Silent, is a serious injustice to the child and to the cause of education. The greatness, too, which inheres in weakness or failure, as in the case of Charles I. of England, is not to be neglected.

With the public school system we have nothing directly to do, but we are in all parts of the country urged to supplement the work of the schools. It is still a pretty good maxim that what is worth having is worth working for. Now learning is well worth having, though the importance of mere book-reading is overestimated; learning may bring that wisdom which teaches even the humblest that the only satisfying wealth is the treasure of the mind, and that happiness is contingent on no external conditions. Commonplace notions these, but they may yet safely be taught. Learning is like salvation; each one must take his step forward to obtain it. The path should not be too easy. One hears much of "original research" nowadays. The idea is not so startlingly new as the repetition of the phrase is tiresome. Scholars have before now delved into the origin of things, among records, archives, and letters, for the buried truth. It is a wise policy which urges youth to begin as early as possible to gather facts for itself and learn to co-ordinate seemingly irrelevant data. I am not thoroughly informed about schools in other places, but certainly in Boston I have been at times amazed at the persistence shown by some teachers and scholars in pursuing fresh and original paths. I was lately permitted to look over some work in Roman history done by a boy of 15, which I should be proud to have done when I graduated from Harvard College at 20 years of age, but that was 22 years ago. Wise is the teacher who urges his younglings to fly early from the nest.

But there is another and less commendable practice in vogue. One night a little shaver came to me with 11 inquiries on the slavery question which must be looked up and reported on by the following morning. One question called for the opinions of leading men of either side of the controversy; another asked for the significance of the Missouri compromise! The boy had not been given a single reference or the remotest clue, but had been sent forth naked, by

a lazy teacher, into a library containing three-quarters of a million books, helpless as a walf lost in a London fog. A small girl asked me the other day for help on Balboa, Ponce de Leon, and Da Gama; she had no more notion of what to do than had my friend the slavery investigator. Both came with the cry of "original research" on their infant lips. I politely, and I trust diplomatically, conveyed to their respective teachers the assurances of my highest consideration, and the promise that when they had done their share of the work I would do mine, but that it was contrary to good library morals to undertake to conduct history classes for the young during the hours when adults required closest attention. If co-ordinate institutions are to exchange functions it should be on some principle of equity. It is not plain to me how the public schools are going to give return for services rendered. This is not a selfish proposition, as it might easily be were we not already overburdened with urgent cares of our own.

It is a solemn matter to load a child's mind with what you think he ought to learn instead of trying to show him what there is to learn and how best to learn it. It may be that I am mistaken, or fail to grasp the whole matter, but my experience, so far as it goes, informs me that in literature, to speak of that specifically, there is prevalent a deliberate indoctrination of national or patriotic literature, to the almost complete exclusion of literature as a whole. I need not waste time in arguing that there are no confines to true letters—it is the largest Republic in the universe, it has no caste, no preference in color, no exclusion of sex or age. It is the roomiest thing there is. Is this theory taught *ab initio* in schools, and whether it is or not, are libraries doing all in their power to break down state, national, or continental barriers?

In the domain of poetry alone it seems to me that almost the only name I hear from the lips of children is "Longfellow." Now I take it that no person of sense in this audience can put his hand on his heart and say that Longfellow is a great poet. If he is not a great poet to us, why should he be practically the only poet opened to children? It may be that he is not, but he is the only one, excepting Whittier, of whom I hear. The continual reiteration of the question "Have you Longfellow's Poems?" reminds me of the man at a boarding-house who, broken by a continuous

fare of our great national delicacy, at last burst forth, "I revere the name of Washington, but damn his pie!" He expresses my own feelings in regard to Longfellow and his poetry. Somebody, I don't know who, is telling the youth that Longfellow is the man they want to know about, and as a result they learn his "Children's hour" and the "Psalm of life"—and the "Building of the ship," though that I have heard has been objected to by some lascivious pedagogue. He is studied as to his life, his portraits, his home. A little girl of 10 years told me the other day that she would like to have seen Longfellow and Whittier, and possibly Washington, but that she did not believe she would care to have seen Abraham Lincoln! Is not that terrible—a child led from her babyhood to admire an altogether worthy gentleman, whose face bore no single line of noble suffering, as his placid and amiable verses hold no mighty or far-reaching cry—to have been so taught that she preferred this to the sublime but human personality of him who wrote the Gettysburg address? Where is Tennyson in this matter? I don't think I ever had a call from a child for his poems. Wordsworth, another "foreigner," is equally unknown. It isn't right, is it? So far from aiding and abetting a school system which stifles a universal or even a vague taste for literature, it would seem to me to be a duty to counteract this narrowness by making no attempt to furnish more than the normal supply of what is called "supplementary reading"—and by making the child feel that he is out for books on his own venture.

Personally, I am exceedingly distrustful of "Children's rooms"—they are very much like Sunday-schools—convenient places for parents who don't go to church to unload their offspring. They relieve parents also from a task peculiarly their own—an especial danger of civic and state paternalism, through an assumption of artificial prerogative. The trouble with a collection of books for children is not the selection itself, which is generally excellent, though not of especially forcible character, but with those books which are rejected. A colleague tells me that his mind early took an ugly slant toward those portions of Shakespeare's work which have been so carefully taken out from "Lamb's Tales." I don't want my children, or anybody else's children, to frequent a place where there is no Shakespeare, no Chaucer, no Bible,—the whole of them—or where there

is a selection only of Scott's or Dickens's novels. I cannot but feel that this principle of selection is dangerous—it tends to restrict the child from groping forward for himself—feebly, perhaps—but still groping. He comes to feel that the horizon of the mental life is bounded by the shelves set apart for him. Infinity is not too large for a mind to grow in, and who shall wisely say what part of universal knowledge is to be the paddock for these young colts? Each generation is wiser than the preceding one; one of the saddest fallacies is that mothers and fathers know best. I suppose there is hardly an instance of a great man risen from humble origin who did not squarely contravene parental wisdom. If this is true of single families, how much truer of a multitude of children coming to us for a particular object? Shall we show them the open road of books—the King's highway—or shall we start them down a neat side path, cautiously adorned with box borders after our own pattern of mind?

How does a library differ from the world in general, with all sorts of people in it, from which a youth must choose wisely if he can? We must take books, like life, as we find them, and learn to distinguish good and bad; learn, as we ought, that the good is not so good as we have been told it is, and that the bad contains a strong infusion of good. No wrecks are so fearful as those which come to the young who have up to a point led "sheltered lives." Life is the one important thing for those who live—it must be met somehow, and it is best met with boldness and robustness, not with a hesitating delicacy. There must, of course, be discrimination—we should not invite to a feast and deliberately place ordure before children—neither is it best to ignore the existence of an alloy in books. Let a child read "Gulliver's travels" as Swift wrote it. If you are clean and strong yourself you will be an example that one may eat strong meat and survive, but if you are "nice" and over-cautious you will eventually be discredited. Some part of everybody's life is spent in the sorrowful reflection that as a child he has been lied to.

I am not trying to cover the whole vexed question of children's literature, which has absorbed the attention of honest and high-minded people; but I would content myself with the general assertion that if there must be such a thing as books for the young, there should be as few as possible deliberately offered as such. The classification is offensive

to a large sense of things. There are no such things as stars, or flowers, or music, or architecture for children — Why, pray, should there be a peculiar literary expression for a child? Things which the young best love were written for no time or condition. The child arrogates to himself what pleases him. "Gulliver's travels" is an exquisite cynicism on the human race — the child adopts it as an amusing but improbable narrative. The child has bestowed immortality on "Robinson Crusoe" and the "Pilgrim's progress" by reason of his unspoiled decision for what is essentially best. Do you suppose that a growing mind has no discrimination? I have heard that some objection has been made to unstinted purveying of Kipling to the young — the "Drums of the Fore and Aft," for instance, has been singled out as undesirable. I am not committed to extreme admiration of Kipling; his persistent inculcation of the doctrine of force, and of implicit obedience to the wills of "great men," is inexpressibly tiresome at times. He is a ritualist of subordination; he is the poetic voice of a military and an aristocratic government; and yet he is honest, manly, and forceful — and a genius. He interprets some of the ideals of to-day in the best possible way. Accept him, with all his excesses, gladly. If children are to be fed only with "unexceptionable" books they will be nourished feebly. No one can decide accurately so long as opinions differ — and, therefore, it is wisest to decide as little as possible.

Another exercise of the paternal function is showing itself more of late in the direction of reading committees. These committees usually serve voluntarily, and undoubtedly devote much time and loyal service to a cause which they believe to be honest and pointing in the direction of good public morals. The members are apt to be responsible members of the community, and I do not think I am in error in asserting that they are apt to represent a portion of society rather than its various interests and strata. They are, furthermore, rather apt to be composed of women. The last report of the trustees of the Boston Public Library states that no men were serving on the reading committee of that institution at the time of writing, because no man could be found who had leisure enough to attend to the matter. No man appears, however, to have expressed his view on the importance of the task. As a rule, heavily burdened people are the best to

fulfil an obligation. I have my doubts of the utility of those who have time on their hands. When there was a casting about for the right one to undertake the life of Pusey, Gladstone, I think, was suggested because he was the busiest of men.

The duty of these committees is to read and report on the merit of books submitted to them. It does not follow that their verdict will be accepted, but their opinions are no doubt powerful factors in the selection and rejection of books. The situation is as follows: A body of citizens, mostly of one sex, let us admit, and probably of a rather narrow social range, is vested with powers, nominally slight but practically large, to select, for a community which is taxed well to support its library, such books as in the opinion of these few persons are "suitable" for their fellow-citizens. I do not claim to be largely familiar with the workings of these extra-territorial committees, but from what I have been able to learn many of the decisions are flippant, uncritical, and betray a social bias. I have in mind one case where H. G. Wells's "Wheels of chance" was turned down because it was "vulgar." And so it was, gloriously so! The hero is a young shopkeeper who has an adventure while on a bicycle tour with a young woman his social superior. He falls in love with her, and, showing himself a gentleman of the finest sort, goes back to his yardstick roused to a life of the imagination and communing henceforth with his ideals.

I can have no trust in a committee, however well disposed, which makes such a *bêtise* as to condemn the "Wheels of chance." I was favored not long since with a graphic description of the methods of a book committee of a library not far from Boston, with which I have only a slight acquaintance, but the scene is probably correct. Around a table, on which are arranged the new books in a row with their backs up, sit the judges. The chairman takes up a book at random. It is "Differences," by Hervey White — a book to which the *Boston Transcript* recently gave strong praise. "Anybody ever heard of Hervey White?" Nobody ever had. Down goes poor Hervey White, the first of the pile to be returned to the bookseller. What chance, I ask, has Hervey White against such massive intelligences? Inspirational book criticism should have no right to exist. We cannot object to any member of the committee refusing any book or all books on his or her

own account — but we do not want that kind of a mind to select or reject books for us or our fellow-citizens in so unscrupulous a fashion.

Prejudices are sure to creep in — a clergyman will have his point of view, a "Purity League" woman will have hers, and so on. What with one warped mind or another, a book has to be very good or pretty colorless in order to run the gauntlet. We, as librarians, ought to have the ability and the conferred power to obtain books properly. But suppose that somebody objects to our choice. There's the rub. When we divide powers we divide responsibility. We should stand or fall by virtue of our own acts, as in other walks of life. Let us suppose an extreme case: that a clergyman represents to us that on our shelves is a work on human liberty which indirectly is calculated to injure the sensibilities or even impair the faith of his flock, especially of the younger members. Of course we do not wish to be insulting or truculent, but we can be firm — vehemently so. Let us ask the good man if we have ever refused to put on the library shelves any honestly written book which he or any member of his sect has recommended, and if we have ever shown ourselves prejudiced against his wishes. If he answers that we have not, then our reply is clear — that we cannot recognize his right to exclude the choice of any one else. Freely placed before the public, any book on a decent topic has a fair and equal opportunity with every other book to fight its way, to animate all open minds by its ability, or to rot undisturbed through its stupidity. The least concession of the right to interfere in the matter of absolute openness of choice is fatal.

Much is said of the necessity of tact in libraries, but sometimes we need simple honesty and courage. Tact usually presupposes that the other fellow is a fool. The tendency to encroachment from every side is constant. That tiresome person, the "hard-headed business man," would have nothing but practical books for the community; the amiable and innocent minded want only "softening influences" to reach the people; the teachers have a holy enthusiasm to let the librarians do half their work; the conservative is shy of books of a disturbing character; the fierce radical wants the whole plant burnt up every five years — Bible, Shakespeare, and all — and a new start taken. Amidst these manifestations of a tendency nowadays to meddle publicly with other people's business

instead of working out one's own salvation with fear and trembling — in the midst of these paternally (or shall I say maternally?) minded outsiders — the librarian ought to stand unshaken. He is at his post to get all the money he can, by gift or appropriation, to buy new books; just as many as possible — not 300 copies of "David Harum" and one of "Tess" — but more and more books, till his granaries burst and then he will push vigorously for a larger building. He will be solicitous for a perfect catalog, intelligible lists, willing and polite service, good ventilation, much comfort and no luxury. When he has all this in full swing I doubt if he will have much time to devote to the "closer relations" of his library to anything else. It is a business affair — this running a library — and seldom wholesomely affected by interference from the outside, however well-intentioned.

In the selection of books the spirit of paternalism will most show itself toward the classes of supposedly objectionable literature, vulgar books, books dealing with the problem of sex in all its phases, and books thought to be generally menacing to the social structure. Vulgar literature? What is it? The range is wide, running from Thackeray and Dickens down to "Chimmie Fadden." Some excellent people think that Mr. Dooley is quite too coarse for anything. I have no doubt that "Vanity Fair" still seems excruciatingly common to that grade of English society which plays baccarat as it was played a few years ago. When Dickens revealed the horrible substratum of British respectability he was quickly condemned, and is still under the ban. So long as respectability rests on the foundation of pretence, books which tell the truth will seem vulgar. In our literature "Chimmie Fadden" is typical of the offensive presentation of types of undeveloped but promising character. The scene is simply transferred from the refined stupidity of one class to another class, which thinks with a curious originality and speaks a Bowery jargon, which is, to be sure, not "small talk" but astonishingly easy and frank. One class naturally offends another; the contrasts of life make both its charm and its irritations.

Is it to be wondered at that people blessed with the paternal impulse should be the very ones who fail to grasp the great significance of a dawning literature which is to bring forward the life, thoughts, ideals, and actions of the East End of London, the Third Avenue of New

York, and the South End of Boston — all teeming with human interest, and containing some of the possibilities of the future? If we want intelligent opinions of these books they must be sought not from the tidy inhabitants of Fifth Avenue or Ward Eleven, but from the men and women who are in the swim — not in the social swim; that doesn't much affect human life—but from those who are in the main currents, newspaper people, college-settlement girls, and some — only some, alas! — ministers and priests. These are the people whom I would trust not to turn down a book as vulgar which is dealing with the human tragedy in its humblest phases. There is one institution in this state where the works of Charles Dickens are kept from the inmates, who are held in restraint to overcome the obsession of strong drink. After a duress of a few months they go forth to face once again their own sad problem. In Dickens there is frequent mention of various pleasing decoctions—cold punch, stunning ale, and other familiar beverages. All the great novelist's appeals for humane and decent living, for universal charity, all his denunciation of hypocrisy and sordidness are withheld from these poor devils, because they *may* be tempted by alluring references to cold punch, when everybody knows that when they are released they are turned into the city streets, and that they are greeted with shop after shop, warm and soliciting to their surging appetite. What sort of a panoply against sin did blinders ever prove to be? The institution to which I refer is the Massachusetts Hospital for Dipsomaniacs at Foxborough.

In regard to the vexatious question of the so-called sex problem I have little to say, but experience tells me that those who are the most actively concerned over improper literature are not those whom I would most implicitly trust in the wider realms of morals. Robust men and women with steady nerves and wholesome natures are seldom the ones who raise an outcry against this sort of books. They recognize in others what they know to be true of themselves, that the sex problem in all its complications is of absorbing and continuous interest to mankind. As a rule, only the feeble and incomplete take the attitude of fastidious opposition, and speedily become morbid. They are well-meaning, without question, but they should not be suffered to prevent the normal expressions of the age through the medium of fiction from a fair hearing. Of course the first ques-

tion which arises when one of these vexatious books appears is whether the purpose and the treatment are sincere. Of the deliberately salacious I am not speaking, nor have I any softness toward those buzzards who are always smelling about in our public libraries for something rank on which to pounce. In our sight the vile person should be condemned without fear or favor, and personally I should be glad if our policy of universal politeness could be suspended in the case of these pests. But when a man like Thomas Hardy, or George Meredith, or Emile Zola, gives forth from his genius, I would not have the fate of their ruddy offspring put in the hands of the anæmic or the over-cautious.

We must be brave in our own virtue; if strong meat is not injurious to us, need we be too solicitous about the effect on the people? I recall, with dismay, a conversation once held with a very earnest and effective library woman, who contended that works of the imagination should be dealt out sparingly; her idea was that many poor and half-trained young men and women, with the sharp problem of a bread-and-butter existence before them, are better off without glowing pictures of wealth, splendor, social ease and comfort, and all the allurements which would naturally tend to make them dissatisfied with their own condition. Dissatisfaction is a holy thing; it is the greatest possible incentive to progress. However crude or miserable its expression may be, discontent is forever to be preferred to complacency or stagnation. It growls and mutters, finds fault often unreasonably, sometimes it throws bombs, and guillotines fine ladies and gentlemen, but it is better than tame acceptance. It is simply and absolutely none of our business what the mental and moral processes may chance to be in the public which pays us to run its literary shop. If a community is fond of horse-racing it is futile to try to persuade it of the peculiar virtues of raising poultry. If the people like to read stories, as a relief from breadwinning, it is a sort of impertinence to provide a liberal supply of Mr. Smiles's inestimable work on "Thrift." Some people don't want "Thrift"; they want "The three guardsmen"—a much better book in my opinion. You and I do not read what we do not wish to read; will others?

It is the opinion of some thoughtful minds among us that, while there is a class to which may safely be committed any books which we

ourselves may properly read, we have a certain charge laid upon us to treat the bulk of mankind as if it really were incapable of self-guidance in intellectual as in political matters. There is, however, this difference: In political life every one is free to vote for whomsoever he pleases, and if a man or a large number of men elect bad representatives the fault is their own and the remedy is always at hand. In the sphere of religion we are all free to subject ourselves to the disciplines and the usurpations of any church, or to keep away from them. But when it comes to public libraries the mass of the community has no practical remedy. Often they have no means of knowing that they are deprived of their dues, and that books are selected for their best welfare, but perhaps not in accordance with their tastes.

This theory in regard to the helplessness of mankind is vicious, and none the less vicious because there is much truth in it. Corrupt statecraft and priestcraft have thriven long on this assumption, and history is mainly a record of one continuous struggle against the exploitation of mankind. Are we prepared to be exploiters also? Is the wrong diminished because it is not fully understood what we are doing? In the case of small libraries the reply obviously to be made to what I have said is that there absolutely must be some selection—that the resources of most libraries only permit of a very rigid selection from a multitude of new books, and that there is no escape from this dilemma. This is all true—most of us must cut our coat according to our cloth. But the manner of the choice is what disturbs me. In glancing over the list of approved fiction submitted, for instance, to this club, the first thing which strikes me is the mediocrity of the selections. Now, one of two things is true: either these selections reflect the commonplaceness of the minds which do the choosing—and if this is true the condition is assuredly lamentable—or else the recommendation of a book for general purchase is based on the harmlessness of the book and its adaptation to average intellects. Harmless books in general are mediocre books; if a new note in morals or society is struck, the suggestion of a possible injuriousness at once arises.

There is no limit to which this attempt to provide "safe" literature may not be carried. It is bad enough to attempt to please everybody, but it is far more difficult and dangerous to attempt to offend nobody—it is belittling to

ourselves, to the public, and to the institution. Deprivation based on personal prejudice seems to me a very evil thing. Let me present to you a letter which I lately received from a young Russian who has suffered in common with a whole nation, from a paternalism which is the same in essence, though far worse in practice:

So. BOSTON, MASS., Sept. 15, 1899.

MR. L. SWIFT, Esq., Boston Public Library.

DEAR SIR: Your worthy letter at hand. I am more than glad and pleased at your acceptance, and I will tell you why, although maybe you will hardly understand just exactly what I want to emphasize mostly, viz.: I read that book while being a youth of 15. It was written with ciphers instead of letters, each cipher substituting a corresponding letter of the Russian alphabet, mixed with letters written upside down, so that before one gets used to them he must use a mirror, or written with an extract of onion instead of ink, and on the corner of each sheet of paper so written, an inscription with a pencil, made to indicate that the paper is not blank as it looks, but you need to heat it on a lamp and all the letters will appear in a golden color. After reading it through you had to set it on fire immediately, and next day you will get 15 to 20 pages more.

It had to be read in a cellar, a toilet room (of Russian style, quite a Difference!) or somewhere in a field or woods. The publishers using such means are the students of gymnasia, and it seems that they were not a bit lazy, neither stingy to add their own ideas in the text, by copying the manuscripts, so, for instance, I had to digest 3000 sheets of paper, full size, like this one in your hand now [foolscap], written fine on all sides, in order to read the book in question, and a greater number still for "My confessions," by Count Tolstoy.

Can you have any conception of anything of such kind? Certainly not, since you was brought up here in America, where every book is handed to you for the mere asking, and accordingly you never felt the anguish of the Russian little boy; but then, I assure you, Dear Sir, that neither had you the inexplicable, heavenly joy of reading anything in a damp, dark cellar, where the slightest noise had to be and was ascribed in imagination to nobody else but to a detective sent extra from the capital, St. Petersburg, in the name of the Tsar.

"O! stolen matter, how sweet thou art!" That is the reason why I wanted the book to be in the library, because not every boy had my luck to get it from the students, and in vain was many a boy longing for it; and hence I think that is the reason that the Russians are diligent readers when they have the opportunity like the one offered by the library.

Now, I think it needless to tell you, Dear Sir, that a formal acknowledgment will be unnecessary, as I am perfectly satisfied and happy at the thought that some Russian fellow will read it, and his heart will beat faster with sympathy for the memory of Tcherniahevsky in Siberia, and will offer a prayer to God that He may enlighten his grand old country and bless his new adopted one. Very respectfully, etc.

We need not, of course, anticipate the horrors of the Russian censor, but I am not sure that it is not better to be under his openly-exercised, malign power than under the more para-

lyzing restraints exercised in secret, and by a commonplace intelligence. Russian tyranny has produced nihilism, but against stupidity the gods themselves strive fruitlessly. As a refreshing contrast to the restraining hand of intellectual prudence, I recall the boast of a professor in one of the largest American universities, that his aim is to "plant dynamite in the minds of youth." This appeals to me more forcibly, even when I do not chance to agree with the process, than do curfew laws and the mental sequestration of children in libraries.

A clergyman of high repute in Boston said to another not long since that one of the most discouraging signs of the times was the hopeless mediocrity pervading every recent movement. In the world's great efforts to-day to recognize the obligations of each to all, to mitigate the terrifying inequalities of the human lot, it is inevitable that many activities should be expressive only of a vague and often trivial restlessness. In the midst of the striving and surging of the mass to work out some favorable solution, why should not well-established institutions stand somewhat aloof from this welter, like great secular cathedrals, with doors wide open, night and day, never lowering their own standards, but where the Light which lighteth *every man* that cometh into the world, being lifted up, draws all men unto it? Shall we be sanctuaries of learning and freedom, or shall we adopt patronizing and depressing methods? Shall we stoop to conquer? Or, thinking little of success, or circulation, or personal reputation, shall we make these institutions so strong and vital in themselves that they may withstand, nay, hardly feel, the vicissitudes of the hour. We have no business to be responsive to every phase of mediocrity—though we certainly must never lose touch with the common aspirations of mankind. But libraries have no call to be sponsors in baptism to each new fad or excitement.

For the sake of a specific example, let me instance the late prevailing enthusiasm for women's clubs. These clubs have almost nothing to do with the real progress of women, but are expressive of a sort of social uneasiness—a dissatisfaction with the doubtful utility of mothers' meetings and the uncertain joys of ladies' luncheons—and for a time there is a great rush for culture. The literature of the Renaissance, the Hypethral Question, the Influence of Lessing on Modern Thought, are

taken up with a feverish zeal and dropped again like a hot stove cover. Well do I recall the invasion of one large institution a few years since by one of these women's clubs. Apparently hundreds of large, square, dominating ladies, with square, inexpressive visages and ponderous tread, filled the corridors and staircases. As one of a timid and weaker sex, a sense of great helplessness came upon me. They were all red-hot and sizzling for culture; but as individual seekers after learning, I have never beheld one of these good women since. It would be impossible for an institution to meet adequately so insatiable a demand.

*Que faire?* Should one recognize, with a fostering and paternal solicitude, this fleeting enthusiasm—and spread before the unwonted eye countless plates of the art of an age known only by name, and priceless books holding the imperishable scent of a bygone culture? There is a valuable admonition in the New Testament on the true use of pearls; also a secular adage on the making of silk purses; but that is quite aside from our problem. Why not treat the women's club in a normal and sensible fashion, and be ready and glad to help each and every aspiring member according to her requests, but be a little coy about attempting to furnish culture in bulk? To a certain extent this treatment might profitably be applied to our young friends from the various library schools, who occasionally appear in considerable numbers, heavily equipped with eyeglasses, note-books, and an imponderable seriousness. These earnest people levy on our moral sensibilities; make us for the time feel responsible for their success in the future. Their trust in what we say is sublime, but it is so typical of the tendency nowadays to lean on somebody.

This spirit of helplessness has invaded higher officials. If a librarian wants to issue a list of periodicals, or put on a storm door, or change from gas to electricity, he sends out 300 blanks to as many overworked librarians, asking what kind of felting they put on their storm doors, and how many volts will light how many lamps, and whether they cut the leaves of the periodicals for the public. Then these answers are all classified, and a typewritten report is drawn up; and after great agony of mind no decision is reached. Not of such stuff were the Panizzis, the Bradshaws, the Garnetts, or the Winsors made. The Athabara bridge wasn't built in that way. Full of virtue as the age is, it tends to a lack of self-reliance. The very impulse which makes us

over-anxious to nurture the minds of the public may tend to make us supine ourselves. The solution is easy. Don't lean and don't be leaned upon; above all, don't try to make people lean on us. A demand which it is wrong for one man to make on you is not necessarily just if a thousand make it.

There is a rising sentiment among some of us against the system of so-called travelling libraries. I have no time to enter fully into the merits of the question, but the practice is a very deliberate supersession of local prerogatives. These travelling libraries are sent in some cases by the state, thereby relieving the smaller political divisions from expense or responsibility. At first thought the idea of sending collections of books for a limited season from one slightly populated place to another, is rather enchanting. It seems to be a shedding of light in dark places, and a possible uplifting of benighted rural dwellers into higher conditions. But on the other hand, it is taking the responsibility off the hands in which it belongs, and rendering the communities which accept such gratuity less efficient and less self-respecting. Somehow it appeals to me as a childish scheme to send these collections of books to people who haven't moral energy or intellectual hunger enough to bestir themselves in the matter. There is no peculiar virtue in the reading habit. A large percentage of reading done is as much a phase of slothfulness as it is anything else.

What is true of the travelling libraries is true of all other manifestations of the managing spirit in library work — a phase of the spirit of to-day, no doubt, but not always a virile or noble spirit. Through the tendency to organize and consolidate runs the vein of an essential mediocrity. I have intentionally treated the subject without too much gravity because in truth it is not a very serious thing; in fact it is rather silly, and I am quite sure there is a great deal of priggishness shown. If we send around little boxes of books to people who haven't enough push to get books for themselves; if we get in the way of choosing literary paths for other folks to tread; if we turn our libraries into quasi-educational institutions, we may be entirely up to date, but will the public appreciate these too easily-obtained privileges as did the Russian, whose letter I have just read to you, his small opportunities? People nowadays want their books *à la carte* and not *table d'hôte*. Paternal solicitude is a restrictive, almost an inhibitive, principle. It opens a

way to unlimited control; if too much care is shown already in one direction will it not eventually be shown in every direction? If we deliberately foster tastes for books why should we not in time furnish free tickets for the theatre, free excursions to the beach? "If you pays your money you has your choice" — but if nobody has to pay anything the public won't have much choice and will take what they can get, not what they want — and very ungratefully, too, I assure you.

We should not, like Martha of old, be cumbered about much serving; and there is no need of being so confoundedly serious about this whole library question. Among the printed directions to conductors on the Boston Elevated Railroad is the following injunction: "Try to make everyone who gets on your car feel perfectly at home." There is a good side to that suggestion and there is a ludicrous side. It is "up to us," as the boys say, not to miss the humor of our own situation.

#### THE PROBLEM.

*Carelyn Wells, in the Bookman.*

There's a whimsy in my noddle, there's a maggot in my brain,

There's a doubt upon my spirit that I cannot quite explain.

'Tis a grave, important question over which I vacillate,  
Does Enlightenment enlighten and does Culture cultivate?

We are of the Cognoscenti, and intuitively know  
Just the shades of thoughtful fancy that an author ought to show.

But from our exalted level should we drop a poisoned hint  
To the placid ones who wallow in the sordid slums of print?

Should the Unenlightened Readers be sardonically hissed  
If they like a Duchess novel better than *The Egoist*?  
Should we rare ones who inhabit the superior realms of thought

Dictate to the Unenlightened what they oughtn't or they ought?

To the masses should our classes offer Ibsen when we find

Mr. Caine and Miss Corelli better please the massy mind?  
Should we shudder to discover that they cannot get the pith

Of the tenebrastic subtleties of Mr. Meredith?  
Should we rudely contradict them when they confidently say

"Omar wrote the Iliad and Holmes' first name was Mary J."?

Or shall we abandon flatly this whole altruistic fight  
With the philosophic dictum that "Whatever is, is right"?

Then instead of wasting time instructing others how to think,

We can spend those precious moments with Hafiz o Maeterlinck.

Let us stop our futile task of pointing to the open door,  
Let the Enlightened cease enlightening and the Cultured cult no more,



## WHAT CAN STATE LAW DO FOR THE PUBLIC LIBRARY?\*

BY W. R. EASTMAN, *University of the State of New York, Public Libraries Division.*

THE public may be interested in a library in three ways: in its control, its support, and its use. In a popular way every library used by the public without charge is called a public library.

There are three distinct classes:

1. The *endowed* library, which is the creation of some munificent gift.

2. The *association* library, sustained by the joint action of members who pay annual fees or raise money in many ways and control the enterprise while throwing the doors wide to the public; and

3. The *public* library proper, established and controlled by the voters or their representatives and supported by tax.

With the latter class, state law has everything to do, and with all classes law has something to do.

Law can provide: 1. *For orderly and responsible management.* Every library must be incorporated under legal forms, or in charge of a corporation. Whether trustees are named by one man, by an association or by popular vote, there must always be trustees. The law will make organization as simple and easy as possible with due regard to security.

Whoever creates the trust names trustees, and the trustees are responsible for giving to the public the utmost advantage of that which they hold in trust.

Methods of library organization should be adapted to local conditions. For public libraries the law can recognize the action of any public body that has power to tax, whether school district, village, town or city, or their representative boards. In all such cases the law may prescribe the cause of electing trustees, their number, terms of office, and duties; or it may allow considerable choice in details.

But when local conditions are such that the consent of voters is doubtful it may be expedient for a time to attempt the same work through an association of citizens who have no claim on the public purse, but who, out of pure be-

nevolence and public spirit, undertake privately to raise the necessary funds for this public enterprise. The law can recognize their effort, incorporate the association, and hold it to the orderly discharge of its trust. And even in the case of endowment the law will require of trustees the fulfilment of their obligation to give to the people that which was intended for them.

2.—To secure the ends in view the law can provide a *system of annual reports* which serve both as a check against abuse and a guide to greater efforts, for nothing is more valuable as an incentive or more suggestive to a public library than knowledge of what others are doing.

3.—The law can go still farther in this direction by establishing a central bureau or commission to take the oversight of this whole business, to collect and impart information and present the best standards of library work. There is hardly a limit to the opportunity of such a bureau, except the narrow limit of funds available. The information given may include the character and selection of books as well as instruction in library economy, and the kindly interest taken by this central board in the affairs of distant communities in all parts of a large state will be a distinct force to promote library advancement and usefulness.

4.—The law can provide for the *support* of the public library and make such support continuous. Whenever a tax levying body establishes a library it is bound to support it, as a father is bound to support his child. As it grows older it may cost more, but the obligation does not cease. The law can place the public library by the side of the public school in this respect as one of the great civilizing and informing agencies without which our system of education is incomplete. The law can make it the duty of public library trustees to ask each year for what they need and the duty of the people to supply it.

Here the case of the association library is somewhat different. The public have no control and have not assumed the obligation of support. Nevertheless a public service is ren-

\*Read at meeting of N. Y. Library Association, Niagara Falls, Oct. 14, 1899.

dered, and the law can provide for *partial* support at public expense, under careful restrictions. And right here the central state commission may be of vital service to certify as to the quality and amount of the work that has been actually done.

5.—The law can provide for a *system of contracts* by which small communities may obtain library facilities otherwise beyond their reach. This contract system is adapted in many ways to local conditions.

Among 10 school districts in a farming town there may be only one large enough to attempt to maintain a public library. The town as a whole may be unwilling to do it. But if one district should begin the work, five other districts might be glad to pay to it a small sum each year to share its privileges, and gradually the other districts and even adjoining towns might come to use the library under such privilege of contract. This is now the Wisconsin law. Even a county may contract with a central library to lend books throughout the county. Something of the same kind may be done in Pennsylvania. Buffalo recently, under a special law found its advantage in a contract with the large and finely appointed Buffalo Library to become the Buffalo Public Library for 99 years.

The same thing is in prospect in New York City, for when that city shall have built a house to cover the great endowments of Astor, Lenox, and Tilden, they are to have the power to make a contract for a free circulating department therein. The same power of contract should be extended to every district of the state.

6.—The state can provide by law for *extending state aid* in the form of money or books. In some states this is done only the first year to encourage the founding of new libraries; others continue to render such aid on condition of an equal amount raised from local sources and the whole spent for books of an approved class. Aid of this kind cannot be very large in amount, nor apply to all kinds of expenses. It is meant only as a bounty, an encouragement to effort at home and a stimulus to work of an advanced order.

7.—The state can by law provide for the *lending of selected books* to communities for definite periods, and thereby stir up the people's desire for better reading, and provide on a small scale for that which would not be under-

taken on a large scale in those particular places. The travelling library is the prophecy and forerunner of the public library, and in some places its substitute.

8.—The law can provide for library *permanence*. Those who hold a public trust are not at liberty to abandon it. If public duties are neglected, if proper standards are not observed, it becomes the duty of the law to require satisfactory service. In the case of tax-supported libraries, whose trustees are public officers, this duty is clear. The people are entitled to receive what they have paid for, and under the law there may be some central authority competent to deal with the matter.

The case of endowed and association libraries is somewhat different. But if an endowment is a gift to the people, the state has the right to see that the people have it, that is, the state should guarantee their full enjoyment of the gift. And if an endowed or association library has received any public favor or bounty it may be held to the discharge of its public obligations. If its trustees cannot continue to fulfil them let them give way to those who can.

When the time is ripe for any special advance state law can do still more. New Hampshire is trying the experiment of compulsory legislation, requiring every town to maintain a public library, or at least to make provision for a future public library, laying aside from every year's tax a certain proportion for that purpose. There was a similar law in New York in 1838, compulsory on school districts, but it broke down by its own weight. We may in time license our libraries as we do our teachers, and many like things are possible and might be justified.

There are some things which the law cannot do. It cannot arouse the essential public interest. It cannot provide that inner circle of two or three earnest, devoted souls, who will do the planning and the working which is at the root and in the growth of every successful public library. Law will neither raise subscriptions nor pay taxes. Still less will it produce the judicious circulation and the intelligent reading of the books. Law opens the channels, secures the property, and makes results possible, but all who see in libraries an inspiration and an education have a great work to do.

## THE JOHN RYLANDS LIBRARY.

THE John Rylands Library, of Manchester, was formally opened on Oct. 6, and takes its place at once among of the world's great libraries. The elaborate inaugural ceremonies were held in the library, in the presence of a large assemblage of invited guests who were welcomed, on behalf of Mrs. Rylands, by Rev. Dr. Green, of London. The hymn "All people that on earth do dwell" was then sung, the dedicatory prayer was offered by the Dean of Manchester, and the inaugural address was delivered by Principal Fairbairn, of Mansfield College, Oxford. Addresses were also made by the mayor, Alfred Hopkinson, and Rev. Dr. McLaren, and the exercises were closed with the national anthem and benediction.

Previous to the dedication a special meeting of the Corporation of Manchester was held in the town hall, when the freedom of the city was presented to Mrs. Rylands and to Richard Copley Christie and Robert Dukinfield Darbishire, the latter joint legatees of the late Sir Joseph Whitworth and instruments of his beneficence to Manchester. Each of the silver caskets containing the scrolls conferring the freedom of the city had been specially designed. That presented to Mrs. Rylands was ornamented with a view, in relief, of the John Rylands Library; the casket given to Mr. Darbishire displayed views of Whitworth Park and the New Municipal Technical School; while a view of the Christie Library decorated the casket intended for Mr. Christie. After the speeches of presentation and acceptance an elaborate luncheon was served in the large room of the town hall, and in the evening a conversazione for 300 guests was held at the library, which was illuminated throughout.

The work of establishing the John Rylands Library has extended over 10 years of steady development. The collection of books for this purpose was begun by Mrs. Rylands in 1889, and the erection of the building was undertaken in 1890. "Those who have been privileged to inspect the building," says a correspondent of the *Manchester Guardian*, "can well understand the cause of the delay. It is so large and so very elaborately decorated, and the internal fittings are so perfect of their kind that even a period of nine years seems none too long for the completion of such a work. The architect has had to work under conditions the reverse of favorable—for the site, though central, is sadly cramped—but he has overcome the difficulties with remarkable skill.

"The main idea of the building is that of a college library, that is to say, the library proper consists of a large central hall from which reading recesses open on either side. With a view to obtaining adequate light for the library itself, to avoid unnecessary interference with the rights of adjoining owners, and to secure quiet, the library is placed on the upper floor and is set back some 10 feet from the building line. On the lower floor a cloister or corridor, giving access to the ground-floor rooms, occupies the remaining space, and is kept low

so as to admit of ample windows being introduced above for lighting the ground-floor rooms. The main entrance is from Deansgate, and the whole of the front is occupied by a spacious vaulted vestibule, above which are the librarians' rooms. The floor of the vestibule is considerably below that of the ground-floor rooms. A short flight of wide steps leads up the centre of the vestibule, parting towards the left and right landing on the ground-floor level, and giving access to the cloistered corridors, whence all the first-floor rooms are reached. Facing this approach is an allegorical group representing Religion, Science, and Art. From the vestibule level stairs on either side lead down to lavatories in the basement, and from the landing on the ground-floor level a wide staircase leads to the first floor, giving immediate access to the librarians' rooms and to the main library.

"The library consists of a central corridor, about 20 feet wide and 125 feet long, ending in an apse at the further end, which gives an extreme length in all of about 148 feet. It is 44 feet from the floor to the top of the vaulted ceiling, and is groined throughout in stone. It is divided into eight bays, one of which is occupied by the main entrance, while the rest open into reading recesses giving on this floor 15 recesses occupied by bookcases. The end bay on either side projects so as to form a sort of transept for the building. The transept on the Wood street side forms a recess of increased size. On the Spinningfield side a recess of ordinary size gives access to the map-room. The recess opposite the main entrance gives access to a cloak-room and to a separate room of considerable size, which is the Bible-room. The apse is occupied by bookcases, and adjoining it are, on one side, the entrance to the lift-room and reading-room, a vaulted and panelled chamber, underneath which are kitchen and scullery and a staircase communicating with the lower doors; on the other a sink-room and a spiral staircase for attendants. Two staircases lead from the ground floor to the upper floor of the library, which is arranged on somewhat similar lines. A gallery runs completely round the central space, giving access to the several reading spaces and chambers. The reading spaces on both floors have bay windows. Above the shafts supporting the gallery are a series of portrait statues representative of Literature, Science, and Art. A large traceried window at either end of the building is filled with a series of figures of great philosophers and writers portrayed in stained glass. The bookcases have been arranged after a study of those cases in the British Museum which contain the most valuable antiquities."

The treasures of the library are described by the same writer, who gives special attention to the famous Spencer collection secured by Mrs. Rylands in 1892. He says: "Every one who has been privileged to make the acquaintance of the Spencer Library must have been astonished to find how it appeals equally to the lover of literature and to the bibliophile pure and simple. The 40,000 volumes which

it contains were not heaped together at random, but chosen with care; as Dibdin truly said, 'works of the highest character upon all branches of literature and science' formed the great bulk of his patron's collection.

"But the earl was not satisfied to have the best books. He would have the best copies procurable, bound in the finest style. If he had not a perfect copy of a rare book—a Caxton, say—he would buy up every copy that came into the market until he had secured one that was as perfect as he could expect, and if he could not find a perfect copy he would, if possible, have one "made up" out of two or three imperfect copies. He spared no expense in the search for rare books. Dibdin was sent on long journeys in England and on the continent on Earl Spencer's behalf, to examine out-of-the-way ecclesiastical libraries and tempt indigent or greedy monks to part with treasures of which they could make no good use. If a private collector who possessed some special rarities was in difficulties or otherwise anxious to part with them, Lord Spencer was pretty sure to hear of it through his agents and always ready, if need be, to buy the collection as a whole at a good round sum. Thus in 1819 he bought the whole library of the Duke of Casano Serra at Naples, for the sake of one or two unique early Naples books which it contained—especially the Horace of 1474 printed by Arnoldus de Bruxella, and the undated Terence (1471?) by Riesinger. In such cases he promptly sold the duplicates, and probably was very little out of pocket. And when he had secured his treasures he was not content till they had been worthily bound. The 4000 volumes that filled the 'Old book room'—as the inmost shrine at Althorp was called—had not, so far as I remember, a shabby cover among them; so far as I could see, every single book from the Mazarine Bible and the glorious Psalter of 1457 down to the later Aldines, which seem of such comparatively trifling importance in this great library, was clad in the best style, usually in solid leather with gilt tooling, as became its station in the world of books. His collection enables one to realize what a perfectly kept library is far more clearly than any other that I know unless it be the 'King's library' at the British Museum. These fine copies in their fine bindings have had to undergo but little wear and tear, and they have been carefully tended, at least for a century or so, by owners who knew their worth. Many of the 18th-century books, especially the county histories, are as clean to-day as when they left the bookseller's hands, and if they have been well looked after and kept out of the reach of dirt or damp or smoke, one may well imagine what pains have been taken to preserve the older books.

"Any complete and accurate description of the library must be based on the new catalog of the Spencer and John Rylands books compiled under the direction of Mr. E. Gordon Duff, and that work, though already printed in three stout quarto volumes, has not yet been published. But I must lay stress on three points. First, the extraordinary richness of the collec-

tion of early printed books has not been overstated; it is astonishingly complete for the Continental presses up to 1480 and for the first English printers, and contains an exceptional number of unique pieces. The famous 'St. Christopher' print of 1423, bearing two lines of text which is the earliest dated piece of printing; the block-books, undated but certainly very early works of the press; the Indulgences of 1454 and 1455, the first dated pieces printed from movable type; the Mazarine Bible, the first printed book; the Mainz Psalter of 1457, the first printed book that bears a date; the first books printed at the first presses set up in other German towns which borrowed the art from Mainz; the first books printed in Italy at Subiaco, Rome, Venice, Naples, and elsewhere; the first printed book at Paris—these and many other rare and wonderful things are to be found in the Althorp Library.

"Secondly—and this is less generally known—the collection, apart from the books printed before 1500, was at the time when it was formed a very good general library, and in some departments, such as classics, archæology, geography, and history, a good working library for scholars. We have advanced very far since the early part of this century, and most of the old editions of the classics, the old books on Greek and Roman antiquities, and the old histories, which were standard works in Lord Spencer's day, are now hopelessly out of date. But the great historical collections, such as those of Rymer, Montfaucon, Muratori, and the Madrid Academy, which were made in the 17th and 18th centuries, still retain their value for serious students, and these are all to be found in the Althorp Library. The very large collection of pamphlets—I believe there are at least 7000—is also of extreme importance, especially for the Civil War, the Popish Plot, the Revolution of 1688 and the Non-juror controversy, for the 'Convulsionnaire' agitation at Paris in the early part of Louis xv.'s reign, for English politics under the first three Georges, and, to a lesser extent, for the French Revolution. The very extensive series of accounts of voyages and travels is necessarily as valuable now as ever, and will no doubt be one of the most frequently consulted portions of the library. The works on art and architecture are also exceedingly valuable.

"Thirdly and lastly, the library appeals to the book-lover, as distinct from the bibliographer and the student, by reason of the many literary curiosities, if I may so term them, which it contains. All the best-known presses that have been at work since 1500 are very fully represented. There are scores, if not hundreds, of books printed on vellum, some of them exquisite productions and some of them, I fear, tasteless in the extreme. There are hundreds of books which have a historic interest in themselves as coming from the libraries of famous collectors. Among them I remember a long series of volumes with one or other of the three coats of arms used by the great historian, De Thou, a fair number of Groliers in superb condition, many volumes from the libraries of Count d'Hoyon (with the

Eagle of Poland on the covers), Loménie de Brienne and Michael Woodhull, and one or two examples of the cameo bindings which are associated with the name of Demetrio Canavari, physician to Pope Urban VIII., who possessed a number of volumes bound in this style, though they were probably executed before 1559, the year of his birth. One could form out of the library a collection of bindings that it would be hard to match. Of manuscripts there are but few. Lord Spencer had a very catholic taste, as I have said, but he drew the line at the printed book, and rarely transgressed it.

"In addition to the Althorp collection, Mrs. Rylands has, it is known, brought together a very valuable collection of her own, numbering some 20,000 or 30,000 volumes. Until the catalog is published one cannot say precisely what treasures are to be found among them. I have good reason for thinking that, like Lord Spencer, Mrs. Rylands has endeavored to form a good general library as well as to bring together more rarities. Her books will, I fancy, bring the Althorp collection up to date as an excellent working library for students, especially in the departments of history and theology. Lord Spencer has an immense collection of Bibles in all languages, but this has been considerably enlarged and strengthened by Mrs. Rylands, especially as regards the early English versions. A complete set of first editions of the works of Mr. Ruskin is included among the additions. It is known, too, that Mrs. Rylands has purchased many rare 15th and 16th century books which even Lord Spencer did not possess—such as, for instance, the only known book printed in the 16th century for sale at Hereford, the first book printed for sale in York, a unique *Machlinia*, and a number of *Wynkyn de Worde*. She has added also to the collection of bindings that very interesting set of modern bindings, executed in many different countries, which was shown at the Manchester Arts and Crafts Exhibition of 1895. But the full extent of the two collections which have been merged into the John Rylands Library cannot be estimated till the library is accessible to the public."

The opening of the library to readers will not take place until January next. Meanwhile, though no definite arrangements have been made for the admission of the public to inspect the building, it is probable that the library will be thrown open on certain days of the week. The rules and regulations of the library include the following:

"The use of the library is restricted to purposes of research and reference, and under no pretence whatever must any book, manuscript, or map be removed from the building. The library is open to ticket-holders every day of the week between the hours of 10 in the morning and six in the evening, with the following exceptions: Saturdays, when it will be closed at two o'clock, all Sunday, Good Friday, Christmas-day, all Bank Holidays, and the first three days in the months of May and November. Persons desirous of being admitted to read in the library must apply in writing to the

librarians, specifying their profession or business, their place of abode, and the particular purpose for which they seek admission. Every such application must be made at least two clear days before admission is required, on a form for the purpose, which must bear the signatures and full addresses of two persons of recognized position whose addresses can be identified from the ordinary sources of reference, certifying from personal knowledge of the applicant that he or she will make proper use of the library. No person under 18 years of age is admissible, except under a special order from the Council of Governors. The tickets of admission, which are available for 12 months, are not transferable, and must be produced when required. Books of great value and rarity may be consulted only in the presence of one of the librarians or their assistants. Readers are not to be allowed in any part of the building save the library without a special permit."

E. Gordon Duff, and Henry Guppy, formerly librarian of Sion College, are joint librarians.

#### NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF STATE LIBRARIANS.

THE second annual meeting of the National Association of State Librarians was held at Indianapolis, Ind., Oct. 24 to 26, 1899. The meeting was opened on Tuesday evening, Oct. 24, by an informal reception and welcoming of delegates. The members of the association were welcomed by Governor Mount, who said: "All conventions that have for their purpose the elevation of mankind, the betterment of the intellectual, social, moral, and financial conditions, are welcomed to Indiana. I can assure you that your mission to our capital city entitles you to a cordial welcome. 'With all thy getting get understanding, for the merchandise of it is better than the merchandise of silver, and the gain thereof than fine gold.' The library is the doorway to knowledge. It is your prerogative to select the best for the library, to make it into a store-house of valuable information. Your work is an important one. I trust your counsel will result in better libraries and in the making of them practical and in a high degree useful. I warmly recommend your work and cordially welcome you."

Arthur H. Chase, state librarian of New Hampshire, responded, thanking the governor for the hospitality extended on behalf of the state, and pointing out the objects for which the association was formed. He stated that the public schools were greatly aided by the libraries, and said that fortunately the old idea that a librarian should be a bookworm was being eliminated from the public mind and giving way to the choice of a man capable of managing the affairs of these institutions carefully and economically.

Short addresses followed by Judge Daniel Walt Howe, of Indianapolis, and Jacob P. Dunn, ex-state librarian of Indiana.

The delegates to the convention were Arthur H. Chase, of New Hampshire, C. B. Galbreath, of Ohio, Maud Thayer, of Illinois, L. D. Carver, of Maine, Jennie Lauderdale, of Tennessee,

Adelaide Hasse, of New York, and Mary E. Ahern, of Chicago.

The Wednesday morning session was opened at 10 o'clock with a paper by C. B. Galbreath, of Ohio, on "Classification and cataloging in a state library." Mr. Galbreath pointed out that classifying and cataloging in a library according to some recognized system was absolutely necessary, even if the library must be closed for the purpose. Granting that the state librarian has collected all the documents and official records of the state possible, he suggested the following arrangement:

- 1, Journal of the Constitutional Convention;
- 2, Journals of the Senate;
- 3, Journals of the House;
- 4, Legislative manuals;
- 5, Senate bills;
- 6, House bills;
- 7 State laws;
- 8 Supreme and Circuit Court reports;
- 9, Consolidated reports of departments and institutions known as "Executive documents," "Official documents," etc.;
- 10, Separate departmental and institutional reports arranged alphabetically and then chronologically.

United States documents should be arranged by subject-matter. Arrange the books on the shelves according to the check list, using the serial numbers as given therein.

Mr. Galbreath spoke of the labelling of the state documents which had been decided on at the meeting last year, and the desirability of having this idea carried out. In the law department the arrangement should be alphabetical by author and the catalog should be by both author and subject. Foreign publications should be alphabetical by country. The catalog should be dictionary.

Mr. Galbreath's paper was followed by a discussion, in which Mr. Chase objected to the arrangement of United States documents and state documents. He believed in a single classification. Put folios, quartos, and octavos together in one classification, so a person can go to a certain place on the shelves and find all the books they have on a given subject. Mr. Chase seemed rather more radical than most librarians, and intends to tear up the volumes and take out and bind together the reports of each state on each subject. For instance, all the insurance reports of Maine shall be bound together and all the bank reports be bound together. He proposes doing the same with United States documents. Mr. Chase was opposed by Mr. Galbreath, Mr. Carver, of Maine, and Miss Hasse, of New York.

The program was somewhat changed for the afternoon, and, instead of the proposed session and reading of papers, the delegates were taken on a trolley ride about the city. They were then shown through the public library by Miss Browning, the librarian. The Bowen-Merrill Co. courteously extended an invitation to the association to look through their establishment and dine at the University Club. After dinner the delegates went in a body to the State House for the evening session. As Mr. Dodson, of Oklahoma, was not present, only a discussion of the subject "What books should a state library aim to get" was held. Mr. Chase said he thought the state library should supplement the public libraries and

should buy many reference books, especially those which are beyond public libraries, either in cost or otherwise. Mr. Carver thought all local, state, and family histories should be purchased. He also believed that books should be bought which are beyond the means of public libraries and individuals.

Mr. Chase read a paper on "What should be the scope of a bibliography of a state." He said that the subject resolved itself into three considerations: books relating to the state, books printed in the state, and those written by the authors of the state. He said this latter was very difficult to decide because some authors moved away from the state and then became famous and others had moved into the state and gained fame, and it therefore was hard to tell which one would belong in the state's bibliography. He thought that books published in the state belonged to the state. This was objected to by Mr. Henry, who said he did not think a book belonged to a state merely because it was published in that state.

Miss Maud Thayer, of Illinois, spoke upon "How far should a state library be a circulating library?" She said: "We shall consider this in four different classes—first, those states which allow state officials, judges and members of the general assembly to remove books from the library; second, those states which permit any citizen of the state to borrow books by depositing a certain sum of money; third, those states which prohibit circulation entirely outside of the state officers and judges; fourth, those states which furnish books to any citizen of the state upon guarantee, carriage being paid both ways by borrowers." Miss Thayer went on to say that the practicability of a more extended circulation of the state library, as it now exists in most of the states, was not apparent to her. Being a reference library, books should be at hand when wanted. But the state library should be a central bureau of information to the people of the state through the medium of correspondence. She approved of the travelling library as a branch of state library circulation.

The Thursday morning session was opened at 9.30. Mr. Buchanan, of New Jersey, was unable to be present on account of illness, but sent his paper, which was read. He suggested that each state should employ a professional trained indexer, whose business it should be to index every book or pamphlet published by the state. This would do away with many of the vexations of the librarians—bad indexing, imperfect binders' titles, lack of uniformity in style and delays in publication. Such an officer must almost necessarily be a practical printer of intelligence and education, and such a man would be competent to do all the indexing that is required except in digests of legal decisions or in compilations of laws where the services of a lawyer would be required. The discussion which followed led to the question of politics in the state library.

Miss Hardin, of Kentucky, being absent on account of illness, Mr. H. N. McClain, librarian of the Supreme Court of Indiana, talked on the "Management of a law library." He said

that a law library should be managed like any prosperous institution, and as the management is in the hands of the librarian he should be a lawyer, a business director who combines scholarship, character, and business capacity. The law library should have every law-book in the English language, and these should be purchased as soon as possible, so as to keep the library up to date. Mr. McClain favored open shelves as better suited to the wants of the lawyers. He said that many lawyers, especially among the older ones, much prefer to get the books for themselves.

The discussion was closed to take up the election of officers, the result of which was as follows: President, C. B. Galbreath, of Ohio; Vice-president, L. D. Carver of Maine; Secretary, Arthur H. Chase, of New Hampshire. The officers elected were appointed as executive committee.

A committee for the advancement of the uniformity of the exchange of state publications and uniformity in labelling of same was appointed, consisting of H. G. McClain, librarian of the Supreme Court of Indiana; C. B. Galbreath, of Ohio; Maud Thayer, of Illinois; Adelaide Hasse, of the New York Public Library.

The meeting was then adjourned until next year, the place and time of meeting being left to the executive committee to decide.

W. E. H.

#### TRAVELLING LIBRARIES FOR NEW JERSEY.\*

THE New Jersey Travelling Libraries, for which the legislature last winter appropriated \$1500, will probably be in operation by the middle of December. The appropriation will not be available until Nov. 1, and until that time no expenses on account of it may be incurred. In 1898 the legislature passed an act directing the commissioners of the state library to prepare plans for operating small travelling libraries, but since there was a provision that no money should be expended for them beyond the amount appropriated, and no appropriation was made, nothing was done until the last summer, when a plan was adopted by the commissioners.

That plan calls for the creation of 20 small libraries, or as many as may be purchased and operated with the appropriation of \$1500; each library to contain not more than 50 volumes of standard and contemporary fiction, biography, history, travel, and works on science, literature, and other subjects. Not more than 50 per cent. of the books in any library shall be of fiction, and special attention is given to the young people in a provision that at least one-half of the books shall be such as are likely to prove interesting to youthful readers.

The libraries are to be operated from the state library, and all expenses are to be paid by the state, excepting such, if any, as may be incurred in the distribution and care of the books after they have reached their destination. Printed catalogs, cards, instructions and rules will be furnished.

\* Report made at meeting of New Jersey Library Association, Oct. 25, 1899.

The libraries will be loaned on the petition of 20 resident taxpayers of a town or village and on the payment in advance of a yearly fee of five dollars. In the assigning of the libraries preference is to be first given to such municipalities as may be considered too small to maintain a public library, and secondly, to those municipalities which first make application.

Any resident 14 years of age or over, who signs the agreement provided, may have the use of the books without charge. The agreement is that he will pay promptly any fines imposed for over-detention of books or for unreasonable injury to a book while in his possession. Children under 14 years of age may borrow books when their agreements are signed by the trustee. The trustee and a librarian are to be chosen by those who petition for the library. The former is made responsible for the safe return of the library.

A travelling library may be kept in one locality not more than six months, when it is to be exchanged for another.

So much for the plan. Now as to the prospects. By the latter part of October applications and inquiries had been received from 27 towns, and word has been received that two more applications are to come in. With the most careful management not more than 25 libraries can be purchased and equipped. All the work in making them up will be done by the state library force in order to make the appropriation go as far as possible.

The Secretary of State (Mr. Wurts) and the state librarian have been appointed to select the books and to put the libraries in operation in accordance with the plan of the commission. The preparation of the blanks has been made, and some progress made in the selection of the books.

The State Federation of Women's Clubs has been greatly interested in the travelling libraries, and 20 of the clubs have sent to the state library lists of titles of books recommended for purchase. These have been valuable as indicating the taste of readers. Other persons who are interested in the movement have also recommended books to be added to the libraries, and as the whole range of literature, practically, can be drawn upon for the 1000 or 1200 volumes needed, the libraries sent out this year should contain only the best.

The cost of the libraries will be about \$50 each for 50 volumes. Miss McKeen, of Camden, on behalf of one of the departments of the Federation of Women's Clubs has given 50 volumes for the libraries. These books are to be on the subject of kindergarten work. It may be that when the libraries are established other persons may aid in extending the system, as is done in Wisconsin.

Until a few weeks ago so little interest was manifested by the public in the movement here that there were fears that it would fail, but since the commission's plan was adopted there has been an awakening of interest that indicates that the demand for the libraries will be greater than the supply.

H. C. BUCHANAN,  
New Jersey State Library.

### ARCHITECTURAL WORKS AT THE FREE LIBRARY OF PHILADELPHIA.

AN important meeting was held in the Special Collections room of the Free Library of Philadelphia on the evening of Wednesday, Oct. 18, to receive the members of the profession of architects who were gathered together on the invitation of the Free Library, under the auspices of the T-Square Club and the Philadelphia Chapter of the American Institute of Architects, and the large number of 73 architects who attended showed their interest in the matter.

The Free Library has been collecting, during the past 18 months, important works on the subject of architecture. A finding list was prepared for use at this meeting. The list showed that the library has collected already over 350 important works, comprising such large and expensive publications as a copy of Piranesi, which was purchased in Rome and since bound up in 26 atlas folio volumes. It will be remembered that 16 of the most striking pictures are those of the dream prisons of which De Quincey and Coleridge wrote so interestingly. The library will shortly publish a detailed index to this great work.

Other valuable works are D'Espouy's "Fragments d'architecture antique," and "Fragments d'architecture du Moyen Age et de la Renaissance"; Forster's "Monuments d'architecture"; "Palais du Louvre et des Tuileries," by Baldus; "Cyclopædia of architectural illustration" and "Encyclopædie d'architecture" of Galliat and Lance; Dohme's "Barock- und Rocco Architektur"; Adams' "Old English houses and furniture"; Wheelwright and Chandler's "Municipal architecture in Boston"; "Historic churches of America"; "Artistic country seats"; Elwell's "Colonial architecture and furniture"; Carter's "Ancient architecture of England"; Penafiel's "Monuments del arte Mexicano antiguo"; and Laurageot's "Palais, chateaux, hotels de France." These are only a few among many titles noted here and there, but they suggest the comprehensive character of the collection.

The finding list met with special approval, and copies were asked for and distributed, so that architects and firms might have them in their offices, and in that manner readily know what tools of their trade were available in the Free Library.

The librarian gave a short address on the subject of the meeting, outlined the methods of classification adopted for these books, and explained that their use was absolutely free, subject to the one restriction—"that the books cannot be taken away from the library, owing to their size and value." A. B. Lacey, president of the T-Square Club; Wilson Eyre, president of the Philadelphia Chapter of the A. L. A., and J. G. Rosengarten, the president of the board of trustees of the Free Library, and others, made brief addresses.

It is proposed, in a few weeks, to receive the members of the Sketch Club in a similar way.

### LIBRARY APPROPRIATIONS FOR GREATER NEW YORK.

THE appropriations for library purposes in New York City, made in the city budget for the year 1900, and approved by the Board of Estimate and Apportionment, were made public Oct. 30. They show a total of \$214,779.30, being \$11,784.70 less than the appropriations of last year. The following list shows the appropriations made to individual libraries, in comparison with the previous year's record:

	1900.	1899.
New York F. C. L. ....	\$61,500	\$28,000
Aguilar F. L. ....	28,250	41,500
Webster F. L. ....	4,550	3,800
Cathedral F. C. L. ....	9,500	8,800
University Settlement L. ....	4,150	4,000
Washington H'g'ts F. L. ....	4,450	3,900
Maimonides F. L. ....	8,900	9,500
St. Agnes F. L. ....	6,750	5,000
Y. W. C. A. L. ....	5,000	5,300
Harlem L. ....	7,200	2,400
Gen. Soc. Mechanics' L. ....	9,000	5,000
Tenement House Chapter L. ....	1,135	700
Union Chr. Work L. ....	11,250	5,000
Brooklyn P. L. ....	40,000	40,000
New Utrecht F. L. ....	1,270	800
Fort Hamilton F. L. ....	1,270	800
Bay Ridge F. L. ....	1,980	1,800
N. Y. F. C. L. for Blind. ....	184.30	64
Long Island City P. L. ....	5,000	5,000
Flushing P. L. ....	1,630	1,800
Y. M. Benevolent A. L. ....	800	
Richmond Hill L. ....	590	
Hollis L. ....	240	
Tottenville. ....	180	
	<u>\$214,779.30</u>	<u>\$226,564</u>

### A. L. A. EXHIBIT AT PARIS.

THE New York State Library, which was appointed at the Atlanta meeting of the A. L. A. to prepare the American library exhibit for the Paris Exposition of 1900, is now engaged in the preparation of the exhibit. After the exposition the exhibit will be permanently preserved in the capitol at Albany as a part of the library museum, which is always open freely for inspection or study. The exhibit at Paris will be in five main parts:

1. *Monographs.* Illustrated monographs published by the New York State Library, by Prof. Herbert B. Adams, of Johns Hopkins University, and Melvil Dewey.

2. *Books.* Bound volumes of publications of the American Library Association, state commissions, associations and local clubs, library periodicals, representative reports, catalogs, blanks, descriptive handbooks, etc.

3. *Pictures.* Photographs and plans of selected library buildings, etc., mounted in wing frames, wall pictures, and lantern slides.

4. *Charts, etc.* Graphic charts showing the progress and condition of the library movement in the United States, picture bulletins, etc.

5. *Appliances.* A working collection of the best mechanical devices for library use, models of card catalogs, charging systems, etc.

The following extracts from recent circulars sent out by the State Library show the limitations of the exhibit and some of the difficulties attending its preparation:

"In 1893 the U. S. Bureau of Education bore



all the large cost of the library exhibit. For 1900 it was hoped to secure funds from another source, as the A. L. A. itself was unable to make any appropriation whatever. The delays in the vain hope of this necessary help have been so long that it is possible to make a creditable exhibit only by earnest co-operation and the greatest possible promptness on the part of each library asked to contribute. The first ship sails Dec. 2, the last early in January. It will be impossible to include exhibits which are delayed till the last week. Everything possible should be in Albany by Dec. 1. If necessary, supplements could be crowded in as late as Jan. 1, when the case must be finally packed. The New York State Library is bearing the large labor and expense of this work done in the interests of all American libraries, and must rely upon cordial and above all prompt co-operation.

"The space at Paris is very limited, the entire American educational exhibit having only little more than one-fourth the space occupied by the New York educational exhibit at Chicago. For the entire American library exhibit we have only 7 x 10 feet, and can therefore use little except photographs, charts, bound volumes, and very compact illustrations of methods. Owing to limited space the exhibit cannot illustrate individual libraries, but must be based on types. Libraries will be asked to contribute material most effective in representing the methods, character of work and sphere of influence of the class to which they severally belong, while the collection as a whole will aim to represent the best thought of the library profession in the United States."

As serious oversights are almost sure to occur in making selections from so large a field, any library having something which it believes should be represented in the exhibit is invited to communicate with Melvil Dewey, director New York State Library, Albany, N. Y., without waiting for a formal request to contribute to the exhibit. Material which cannot be included in the greatly condensed Paris exhibit will be gladly received and added to the library museum. In sending contributions the following directions should be carefully observed:

1. *Books.* If possible send books bound.
2. *Photographs.* Unless otherwise requested, if possible send photographs and plans *unmounted* and of size suitable for wing frames holding cardboard 22 x 28 inches, the latter dimension being the vertical.

Number each photograph, etc., on the back and send a sheet numbered to correspond and containing careful descriptions of the pictures, to be used as a guide in preparing the permanent labels. Letter plans to show clearly the use of each room.

3. *Appliances.* In sending mechanical devices be careful to note cost, specifying quantity made or bought. This is desirable in every case, including even printed forms, etc., but it is specially important for peculiar devices which have been made to special order and for which no prices could be found in the shops.

The name of the maker should be given

whenever he has peculiar patterns or facilities which would make it desirable for other libraries to send to him.

#### 4. *General.*

*Protect from injury in transfer.* Send papers, photographs, blanks, etc., flat, and protect against injury by a stiff board larger than the largest sheets. Paper too large to be sent flat should not be folded, but should be sent in a strong mailing tube. It is impossible to make a creditable showing of forms that have been folded or soiled.

*Label plainly, with use, cost, and name of library.* Before sending, look at each item to be sure that the name of the library, including town and state, is plainly printed, stamped, or written on each. Great pains should be taken that written labels are neat and legible, for they will be read by many thousands. This label should include the name or use, unless such information is already definitely given on it; e.g. a recommendation blank which is so headed or which reads "I recommend for addition to the . . . . . library," etc., needs no farther label; but a blank giving author, title, publisher, price, etc., might be used for a dozen different purposes. Let each item tell its own story so clearly that any intelligent stranger will understand at least its general purpose. For everything common to most libraries the mere name is sufficient explanation, but for anything unusual, make its use clear by explanation and illustration. Often in large exhibitions something of importance is passed by without a thought by nine-tenths of those who would be greatly interested if a plain label had told its purpose.

*Fill all blanks to illustrate fully the method used.* In many cases printed headings will be misunderstood unless the forms are filled in.

In all cases the form and fulness of entry can be illustrated much better than described. It will often be necessary to fill two or more blanks in order to illustrate the different ways of using the same form or to show different types of entry.

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### American Library Association.

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*President:* R. G. Thwaites, State Historical Society, Madison, Wis.

*Secretary:* Henry J. Carr, Public Library, Scranton, Pa.

*Treasurer:* Gardner M. Jones, Public Library, Salem, Mass.

#### TRANSACTIONS OF EXECUTIVE BOARD.

The executive board of the American Library Association held a meeting on Thursday, Oct. 26, at the Pratt Institute, Brooklyn, N. Y. There was a full attendance; present: R. G. Thwaites, Henry J. Carr, Gardner M. Jones, Miss Haines, E. H. Anderson, Miss Plummer, E. C. Richardson, W. C. Lane; and C. H. Gould, for the local committee.

Committee and other appointments were made as follows:

Publishing Section: Melvil Dewey (re-elected for two years), R. R. Bowker (re-elected for

three years), W. I. Fletcher (re-elected for three years).

Co-operation committee: E. C. Richardson, chairman; W. C. Lane, C. W. Andrews, Alice B. Kroeger, Thorvald Solberg.

Library schools: to be appointed by the president.

Program committee for Montreal meeting: President and secretary.

Local committee: C. H. Gould, with power to appoint other members.

*A. L. A. handbook.* The secretary was authorized to issue a supplement to the A. L. A. handbook for 1899-1900, giving officers and committees for that period, necrology, new members, and outline of program for Montreal meeting.

*Endowment Fund.* The need of increasing the A. L. A. endowment, as presented by the trustees of that fund at the Atlanta conference, was brought up, and it was voted that the trustees of the Endowment Fund be requested to take such action as in their judgment may seem best, looking to the permanent enlargement of the Endowment Fund.

It was also voted that the executive board recommend to the trustees of the Endowment Fund that in any action taken by them toward increasing the fund they should consider the possibility of increasing the number of life memberships and life fellowships.

It was also voted that the executive board ask the council to direct the trustees of the Endowment Fund to pay to the treasurer of the association the income received from life memberships.

*Constitutional revision.* It was voted that the committee on constitutional revision be requested to prepare final draft of the constitution, for submission to the Montreal meeting, based on the draft as printed in the Atlanta conference proceedings; such draft to be communicated to the secretary and referred to a committee of one for presentation to competent legal authority in the state of Massachusetts, as ordered by the association. W. C. Lane was named a committee of one to refer the draft to legal authority.

It was also directed that notice of the new constitution be sent by the secretary to each member in advance of the Montreal meeting, and that the final draft be prepared and submitted for adoption at that meeting.

*Duplication of bibliographic work.* The resolution on means of preventing duplication of bibliographic work, passed at the Atlanta conference, was referred to the co-operation committee for consideration and report.

*Plans for Montreal meeting.* It was voted that the Montreal meeting of the A. L. A. be held during the period June 7-13, 1900; the actual business sessions beginning Friday, June 8, and the post-conference trip beginning Wednesday evening, June 13.

A petition was presented requesting the establishment of a section devoted to library work with children for the Montreal meeting. It was decided, however, that this subject was of such wide interest that it should be made of

more general prominence, and it was therefore voted that one session of the Montreal meeting be devoted to the subject of Library Work with Children.

The general subject of the program for the Montreal meeting was discussed at length, but no definite decisions were made. It was decided to give one session to a presentation of the character and activities of Canadian libraries and literature; one session to practical questions of interest to trustees and librarians, centering around the two propositions: What does it cost to put a book before the public? and What does it cost to keep a book before the public? with other subjects of interest to both trustees and librarians; and to introduce the feature of round-table meetings on matters of specialized interest, such as work in state library associations, state library commissions, and technical questions of cataloging.

The local features of the meeting will probably include a public meeting, which will be a general session of the association; a reception tendered by the authorities of McGill University; a trolley ride, with visits to the Westmount Public Library and Fraser Institute; a trip to the Lachine Rapids; and a free Sunday for individual rest or sightseeing.

*Trustees' Section.* It was voted that the finance committee be requested to make an appropriation to the Trustees' Section for the purpose of printing and circulating the special circulars referred to in the resolutions of the Trustees' Section, prepared at the Atlanta conference.

*Advance printing of papers.* The subject of the advance printing of papers and reports was brought up, and it was voted that only such special and other reports be published in advance as may seem advisable to the secretary and the recorder.

*Fiscal year.* It was voted that the treasurer be requested to make the fiscal year the calendar year, and present a supplementary report showing the condition of the association up to the time of the meeting at which his report is presented.

HENRY J. CARR, *Secretary.*

### State Library Commissions.

COLORADO STATE BOARD OF LIBRARY COMMISSIONERS: C. R. Dudley, chairman, Public Library, Denver.

CONNECTICUT F. P. L. COMMITTEE: Caroline M. Hewins, secretary, Public Library, Hartford, Ct.

GEORGIA LIBRARY COMMISSION: Miss Anne Wallace, secretary, Carnegie Library, Atlanta, Ga.

INDIANA STATE LIBRARY COMMISSION: W. E. Henry, secretary, State Library, Indianapolis.

KANSAS STATE LIBRARY COMMISSION: James L. King, secretary, Topeka.

MAINE STATE LIBRARY COMMISSION: George T. Little, chairman, Bowdoin College Library, Brunswick.

**MASSACHUSETTS STATE LIBRARY COMMISSION:**  
Miss E. P. Sohler, secretary, Beverly.

**NEW HAMPSHIRE STATE LIBRARY COMMISSION:**  
J. H. Whittier, secretary, East Rochester.

**NEW YORK:** Public Libraries Division, State University, Melvil Dewey, director, Albany.

**OHIO STATE LIBRARY COMMISSION:** C. B. Galbreath, secretary, State Library, Columbus.

**VERMONT FREE LIBRARY COMMISSION:** Miss M. L. Titcomb, secretary, Goodrich Memorial Library, Newport.

**WISCONSIN FREE LIBRARY COMMISSION:** F. A. Hutchins, secretary, Madison; Miss L. E. Stearns, librarian, Milwaukee.

### State Library Associations.

#### CALIFORNIA LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.

*President:* F. J. Teggart, Mechanics' Institute Library, San Francisco.

*Secretary:* R. E. Cowan, 829 Mission Street, San Francisco.

*Treasurer:* Miss Emily I. Wade, Public Library, San Francisco.

The October meeting of the Library Association of California was held on the evening of Oct. 13, at the Free Public Library, Oakland, Cal. President Teggart, after an opening address, introduced Dr. George E. Howard, of the Stanford University, whose subject was "The social meaning of the free public library." Dr. Howard traced the growth of the public library and the public school from the first foundation of New England, the various influences that have been at work, as legislation, the library convention of 1876, the sessions of educational and other conferences, etc., as developing his opinion that "the public library is destined to be the safeguard of American democracy."

The recent gift to the Oakland Library by Mr. Andrew Carnegie, for the erection of a library building, was the occasion of a general discussion on "Library buildings." Brief remarks were made by W. D. Armes, a trustee, George T. Clark, of the San Francisco Free Public Library, and others.

The following resolution was introduced by Mr. J. C. Rowell, of the University of California:

*Resolved,* That the circulation of books of libraries by mail at second-class matter rates is thoroughly and most heartily approved by the Library Association of California, and we respectfully, yet earnestly, request the active support by the California Senator and Representatives of the bill to be introduced in the 56th Congress, proposing such amendment to the postal laws.

At the close of the meeting Mr. Charles S. Greene, the librarian, made a few remarks, after which a collation was served.

ROBERT E. COWAN, *Secretary*.

#### COLORADO LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.

*President:* A. E. Whitaker, State University Library, Boulder.

*Secretary:* Herbert E. Richie, City Library, Denver.

*Treasurer:* J. W. Chapman, McClelland Library, Pueblo.

#### CONNECTICUT LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.

*President:* W. J. James, Wesleyan University Library, Middletown.

*Secretary:* Miss J. S. Heydrick, Pequot Library, Southport.

*Treasurer:* Miss Alice T. Cummings, Public Library, Hartford.

The Connecticut Library Association held its fall meeting in Ansonia, Oct. 27, 1899. William J. James, president of the association, presided, and about 50 persons were present.

The session began with a piano solo by Miss Ada Rubin, after which the usual business was transacted.

The paper of the morning was by Mrs. Agnes Hills, librarian of the Bridgeport Public Library, on "Library work with grown people." She said that a librarian's work is to save the time of readers, but that grown people cannot be advised and treated like children. The work of women's clubs has increased in depth and seriousness and offers magnificent opportunities. Clubs have given up attempts to range through the universe and are limiting themselves to one subject a year. A librarian's club work includes making lists, suggesting topics, and ordering books before they are needed. A scantily equipped library with a patient and interested librarian can do more than a large collection of books with a careless attendant. It is not a librarian's business to give grown-up readers unsought lessons in bibliography, but to put finger on page and line. They do not like to confess ignorance, not thinking that a librarian who has to confess it a dozen times a day is a most sympathetic listener. Librarians have usually little or no knowledge of scientific books, and many such books are too mathematical for general readers. Reviews in trade journals or the opinions of skilful and intelligent foremen are the best helps in buying technical books. Librarians should take an interest in young people who leave school early, and should cultivate relations with every local educational effort, and should believe, as a young member of the profession has lately said, "that the chief end of a library is to wake people up."

Mr. Bachelder, of Minneapolis, spoke of the "Cumulative book index" as a most useful tool for looking up book titles, authors, and publishers. After the reading of questions from the question-box, and a song by Mrs. Paul Norwood, accompanied by Mr. Fred Joy, the members adjourned for luncheon in the parlors of the Congregational Church, on invitation of the Elizabeth Clarke Hull Chapter of the D. A. R.

The afternoon session was given up to libraries and schools. The opening paper was by Jonathan Trumbull, of the Otis Library, Norwich, on "Public libraries and young people." School discipline cannot be enforced in libraries, but respect for the rights of others should be, and it is necessary to keep before trustees and philanthropic readers that more room and a separate reading-room for children are needed in all large libraries. The line of exclusion in chil-

dren's books should be drawn at those which give false views of real life, though books confessedly extravagant and humorous may be freely admitted.

Marcus White, principal of the New Britain Normal School, followed with a talk on "The public library and public school," describing the "library period," which is as much a part of the regular work of pupils in the New Britain model school as any lesson, and indeed is a lesson in the use of books and the card catalog. Mr. White spoke of the sensational reading of his own boyhood, saying that an active boy, who has many other interests, can stand a great deal of such reading, but that the danger in it is for the boy who stays in the house and cares for no other kind of books or for outdoor play. He would not give books on civil government or political questions to young children, who like their history painted in vivid colors, as they do pictures.

After a little more music, Miss Maude E. Capron, science teacher in the Ansonia High School, read the concluding paper on "The library and public school," saying that the school has the responsibility of beginnings in science and literature. The school requires certain books to be read and after a while children read others as good. The school finds many limitations in shortness of time and multitude of subjects, and teachers often recommend references which cannot be used. The library bridges over many gaps, and teaches children to think and find the relations of things. Reading lists prepared by teachers and librarians are good, but teaching self-help is better.

#### GEORGIA LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.

*President:* Walter B. Hill, University of Georgia, Athens.

*Secretary - Treasurer:* Miss Anne Wallace, Carnegie Library, Atlanta.

The third annual meeting of the Georgia Library Association was held Oct. 27 and 28, at the University of Georgia. The faculty of the university was untiring in its effort to make the meeting a notable one. There were present many prominent educators, trustees, librarians, and assistants. The meeting was especially planned to co-operate with the faculty in the matter of adding a library training class to the university. In this connection Miss Wallace, the president, said:

"The most pressing need in Georgia—in the South—to-day is a library training school, where our southern boys and girls can acquire knowledge of library science without going to the north for it. We believe that it is not necessary to wait until there is a demand for a library training school, and, paradoxical as it may seem, the presence of these graduates will stimulate the demand. Take 20 young men and women of good education, and technically trained in the details of library administration, and place them in 20 towns in Georgia, and each will create in his own circle an understanding of and a demand for better library facilities which will soon cause the public library to take its stand along with the public school, supported by the common

treasury. When a community is ready to establish a library, it will not be confronted with the present condition of not having a competent person to place in charge. As restricted and limited as our present libraries of Georgia now are, I do not hesitate to say that we would do better work with the material we have if we had the requisite training in our librarians."

The first session was devoted to the subject of special training for librarians. Miss Rankin, head cataloger of the Carnegie Library of Atlanta, opened the discussion with a carefully prepared paper on technical training for librarians. Dr. McPherson, of the University of Georgia, questioned the Decimal classification for college libraries, and quoted Mr. Cutter's remarks at the Atlanta conference.

The second session was devoted to the subject of library extension by means of women's clubs. The discussion was lead by Mrs. W. C. Clarke, president of the Woman's Club of Covington, who is herself an example of the intelligent, active force that is being exerted by the women's clubs to secure library privileges in small communities.

The third session was led by Prof. J. P. Mosley, of Mercer University, whose paper, "The library and the college man," was the event of the conference. This paper was followed by a brisk discussion on the problems of college libraries. Mr. Arthur Foot, assistant librarian of Emory College Library, read a paper on the Decimal classification, and defended its use in college libraries.

The annual election of officers resulted as follows: President, Walter B. Hill, Chancellor of the University of Georgia; Secretary-treasurer, Anne Wallace, Carnegie Library of Atlanta; Vice-presidents, P. D. Pollock, H. H. Stone, Mrs. Burton Smith, Dr. J. H. T. McPherson, Mrs. W. C. Clark, Elmore Twitty.

The meeting was the most successful yet held, and the members have much to encourage them in the outlook of library growth in the next year.

An interesting feature of the meeting was the election of Mr. Andrew Carnegie as an honorary member of the association, Mr. Carnegie's generous gift to Atlanta having acted as an impetus to library growth throughout the state.

#### ILLINOIS STATE LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.

*President:* E. S. Willcox, Public Library, Peoria.

*Secretary:* Miss M. E. Ahern, *Public Libraries*, 215 Madison St., Chicago.

*Treasurer:* Mrs. Josephine Resor, Public Library, Canton.

#### INDIANA LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.

*President:* W. E. Henry, State Library, Indianapolis.

*Secretary:* Miss Belle S. Hanna, Public Library, Greencastle.

*Treasurer:* Miss Jessie Allen, Public Library, Indianapolis.

The Indiana Library Association will hold its eighth annual meeting on Wednesday and

Thursday, Dec. 27 and 28, 1899, at the State House, Indianapolis. The program will be as follows:

Wednesday, Dec. 27, 2 p.m.

President's address, W. E. Henry, State Library.

Reports of committees.

Selection and purchase of books: how and by whom? G. F. Danforth, State University.

Management of small libraries, Miss Marilla Freeman, Michigan City.

Thursday, 9.30 a.m.

How to interest children in good literature, Miss Jennie Elrod, Columbus.

Mission of the public library in relation to public schools, W. A. Wirt, Bluffton.

Thursday, 2 p.m.

Working with public school teachers, Miss Grace E. Steere, Carthage.

My experience as a library trustee, Frank A. Walker, Anderson.

A number of questions and topics of practical interest have been sent to the program committee, and it is hoped during the sessions to have discussion of such subjects as library bulletins, lending of magazines, access to shelves, reference work, etc.

#### IOWA STATE LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.

*President:* W. H. Johnston, Public Library, Fort Dodge.

*Secretary and Treasurer:* Miss Ella McLoney, Public Library, Des Moines.

#### MAINE LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.

*President:* E. W. Hall, Colby University, Waterville.

*Treasurer:* Prof. G. T. Little, Bowdoin College, Brunswick.

#### MASSACHUSETTS LIBRARY CLUB.

*President:* W. L. R. Gifford, Public Library, Cambridge.

*Secretary:* F. O. Poole, Boston Athenæum.

*Treasurer:* Miss Margaret D. McGuffey, Public Library, Boston.

The annual meeting of the Massachusetts Library Club was held at Fitchburg, Thursday, Oct. 26, in the Parish House of Christ Church.

Mr. Henry A. Willis, chairman of the trustees of the Fitchburg Public Library, gave the address of welcome, including a sketch of the history of the local library.

After the reading of the reports of the secretary and treasurer, and the appointment of a nominating committee, Miss Mary Morison gave an account of the fiction committee of the Boston Public Library. It began in 1895 by forming a reading committee from the Woman's Education Association, which reported the results of its reading to the library. After three years the library took sole charge of it. The readers have nothing whatever to do with the final decision. Between 500 and 600 books are read annually.

Mr. Wellman mentioned the outside interest in the Massachusetts Library Club fiction list

which was issued some years ago, and suggested that the club should print the Boston Public Library fiction reports if possible. As a result of this suggestion a committee was appointed to consult with the Boston Public Library and report at the next meeting.

Miss Tarbell, of Brimfield, delegate from the Bay Path Library Club, spoke of the work of the local clubs. She considered that the local clubs can serve best by turning the interest of the community toward the library. The first step toward this is the consultation by representatives of the three clubs now existing as to the formation of more local clubs.

J. C. Dana, of the City Library at Springfield, was unable to be present, but sent the suggestion that the Massachusetts Library Club should pursue various lines of investigation.

Dr. Wire aroused the members by revealing to the club what he considered its failings. The club should do more educational work among the small libraries. It should have an agent to visit and help. Miss Chandler, of Lancaster, thought that Dr. Wire was too sweeping in his denunciations, and told how she and one other person spent a week every year in visiting libraries removed from the main lines of travel. Several members approved the idea of having a "secretary of libraries" sent out by the club. Mr. Fletcher, of Amherst College Library, was not present, but sent word that he favored the formation of small local clubs.

The morning session was closed by Miss Katherine P. Loring, who told of the work of the Anna Ticknor Library Association, and how its books were selected to fill in the courses of study marked out by the Society to Encourage Study at Home. The public libraries could utilize these collections on special subjects.

After lunch, served in the banquet-room, the members visited the Public Library and were taken by trolley to visit the mills of the Fitchburg Paper Company.

The afternoon session was opened by the report of the nominating committee, which offered the names of the following persons, who were elected: President, W. L. R. Gifford, librarian Public Library, Cambridge; Vice-president, J. L. Whitney, acting librarian Boston Public Library; H. L. Koopman, librarian Brown University Library, Providence; Secretary, F. O. Poole, assistant Boston Athenæum, in place of Mr. H. C. Wellman, who declined re-election; Recorder, Nina E. Browne, A. L. A. Publishing Section, Boston; Treasurer, Margaret D. McGuffey, of issue department Boston Public Library. The chief paper of the day was on "Paternalism in public libraries," by Mr. Lindsay Swift, of the Boston Public Library (see p. 609).

NINA E. BROWNE, *Recorder*.

#### WESTERN MASSACHUSETTS LIBRARY CLUB.

*President:* H. H. Ballard, Berkshire Athenæum, Pittsfield.

*Secretary:* Miss F. Mabel Winchell, Forbes Library, Northampton.

*Treasurer:* Miss Mary M. Robison, Free Library, Amherst.

**MICHIGAN LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.**

*President:* H. M. Utley, Public Library, Detroit.

*Secretary:* Mrs. A. F. McDonnell, Bay City.

*Treasurer:* Miss Genevieve M. Walton, Normal College Library, Ypsilanti.

**MINNESOTA LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.**

*President:* Dr. W. W. Folwell, State University, Minneapolis.

*Secretary:* Miss Minnie McGraw, Public Library, Mankato.

*Treasurer:* Miss Anne Hammond, Public Library, St. Paul.

The seventh annual meeting of the Minnesota Library Association was held at St. Cloud Oct. 17 and 18. The State Federation of Women's Clubs met at the same time and place, which detracted from the local attendance, but gave the small library association the benefit of reduced rates. About 15 different libraries were represented, and all of the delegates stayed at the same hotel, after the fashion of an A. L. A. meeting, thus deriving much pleasure from mutual acquaintance.

The program was altogether technical and gave opportunity for much comparison of plans and methods. The first session opened at 2 p.m., Dr. William W. Folwell, of the state university, presiding. The association was welcomed by the Hon. C. F. MacDonald, president of the St. Cloud Public Library board. Mrs. H. I. McCaine, of St. Paul, gave a paper on "How can the untrained librarian get technical knowledge." She suggested many helps for the untrained librarian to read, and suggested also the visiting of other libraries and the talking with other librarians, and the studying of library catalogs. The Wisconsin Summer School was praised by some members who had attended it, and a resolution was passed asking the State Superintendent of Public Instruction to add a short course of library instruction to the curriculum of the summer school for teachers. A committee was appointed to confer with him as to the possibility of such a course.

Miss Gertrude Cambell, librarian of St. Cloud Normal School, gave many valuable hints on public documents, how to catalog and use them, how to arrange them on the shelves, and how to obtain them from Washington.

Miss Lydia Poirier, of Duluth, spoke on "Periodicals," how to care for and use them, how to check mailing lists, how to bind them, etc., and urged the completion of sets of periodicals, even in small libraries. These three practical papers closed the regular program for the afternoon. A class was then organized and an hour and a half given to elementary instruction in cataloging. Mrs. W. J. Southward, a graduate of Armour Library School, conducted this class most ably, and gave just as much instruction as could profitably be put in so short a time. This class was an experiment, and took up the simplest forms of card cataloging only. It was at least a very pleasant exercise, and profitable enough, we hope, to be repeated again.

The evening session was omitted, and the

library association attended the evening session of the Federation of Women's Clubs to hear the annual address of the president.

On Wednesday morning the association spent an hour in visiting the Normal School upon invitation of President Kleeberger and in going through the Normal School library. Upon resuming the program, Miss Cloud, superintendent of circulation of the Minneapolis Public Library, led a discussion on "Necessary rules and regulations." The rules, as printed in Dana's "Library primer," were taken up one by one and discussed pro and con according to each one's personal experience. Miss Charlotte Prentiss, of Winona, on the subject of "Bulletin boards and special lists" gave an interesting account of what had been done in that line in Winona. An exhibition of bulletins from the Aguilar Library, from Madison, and from Minneapolis, was an important feature of the meeting, and was studied betweenwhiles by all present. Miss M. M. Davis, reference librarian, Minneapolis, gave an excellent list of some of the best reference books, giving her evaluation of them, their strong and weak points. The closing words were given by S. S. Parr, of St. Cloud, on the subject "The responsibility of the trustee."

The whole meeting was designed to cover technical points and the practical details of library work. It was an attempt to make the library association instructive rather than inspirational, and the attempt was largely successful.

The officers elected for the coming year are as follows: President, Dr. W. W. Folwell, University of Minnesota, Minneapolis; Vice-president, Miss Isabel Lawrence, St. Cloud; Secretary, Miss Minnie McGraw, Public Library, Mankato; Treasurer, Miss Anne Hammond, Public Library, St. Paul; Executive committee, Dr. J. K. Hosmer, Mrs. H. I. McCaine, and officers of the association.

GRATIA COUNTRYMAN, *Secretary.*

**NEBRASKA LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.**

*President:* W. E. Jillson, Doane College, Crete.

*Secretary:* Miss Edith Tobitt, Public Library, Omaha.

*Treasurer:* Miss M. A. O'Brien, Public Library, Omaha.

**NEW HAMPSHIRE LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.**

*President:* A. H. Chase, Concord.

*Secretary:* Miss Grace Blanchard, Public Library, Concord.

*Treasurer:* Miss E. A. Pickering, Public Library, Newington.

**NEW JERSEY LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.**

*President:* Dr. E. C. Richardson, Princeton University Library.

*Secretary:* Miss Clara W. Hunt, Free Public Library, Newark.

*Treasurer:* Miss Cecelia C. Lambert, Public Library, Passaic.

The 10th annual meeting of the New Jersey

Library Association was held at the Free Public Library, Newark, N. J., Wednesday, Oct. 25, at 4 o'clock.

After an address by the president on the present condition of the association, a paper written by Mr. Henry C. Buchanan, State Librarian, on the travelling libraries of New Jersey, was read (*See p. 625*).

The committee on a state library commission gave a full report of the work they have been doing. Letters have been sent to every New Jersey town having a population of 700 or over asking for particulars concerning their library interests. The tabulated answers to these questions make an exceedingly valuable compilation, as nothing of the sort has before been done in New Jersey.

Although a formal program had not been arranged, the attendance of members from a distance was very good, and the lively, informal chat on subjects suggested by the papers was helpful and stimulating. The following officers were elected for the coming year: Dr. E. C. Richardson, president; A. E. Bostwick, 1st vice-president; W. C. Kimball, 2d vice-president; Miss C. A. See, 3d vice-president; Miss C. W. Hunt, secretary; Miss Cecelia Lambert, treasurer.

CLARA W. HUNT, *Secretary*.

#### NEW YORK LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.

*President:* J. H. Canfield, Columbia University Library, New York City.

*Secretary:* Miss M. E. Hazeltine, Prendergast Library, Jamestown.

*Treasurer:* J. N. Wing, N. Y. Free Circulating Library, 226 W. 42d street, New York City.

The annual meeting of the New York Library Association was held at Niagara Falls on Friday and Saturday, Oct. 13 and 14. The meeting proved a pleasant one, the attendance averaging from 60 to 100. The attendance was largely local, from adjacent counties, though Mr. H. J. Carr represented Pennsylvania, and H. M. Utley, Michigan. Dr. J. H. Canfield, of Columbia, and one or two others, were present from New York City.

The International Hotel served as meeting-place, and the first session was opened at 2.30 on Friday afternoon, A. L. Peck, the president, presided, and introduced Hon. Peter A. Porter, president of the Niagara Falls Public Library, who spoke briefly, welcoming the association in behalf of the Niagara Falls library. He was followed by the mayor, Hon. Arthur C. Hastings, to whose cordial words Mr. Peck responded, speaking of the impetus given to library work during the past two years, and of the help public libraries received from the University of the State of New York.

W. R. Eastman reviewed "Library progress in western New York since the Buffalo meeting in 1895." Taking the various counties of that section, he noted the increase of library facilities in each, summing up as follows:

"At the end of five years there are 77 free libraries in place of 53; there are 280,468 books, instead of 81,330, and the annual free circulation has advanced from 146,904 to 1,156,109. The whole district, which five years ago circulated

an average of 402 books a day, now circulates 3167 a day, or at nearly eight times the former rate. Of this vast increase of more than 1,000,000 in free circulation, the single item of 768,000 is to be credited to the Buffalo Public Library, but there remains an increase of 241,177 more to be accounted for. It is not in Buffalo alone, but also in Jamestown, Westfield, Fredonia, Dunkirk, Springville, Wellsville, Belmont, Angelica, East Aurora, Batavia, Attica, Warsaw, Albion, Lockport, Tonawanda, North Tonawanda, Niagara Falls—all of these and many more have had a share and a large share in this advance. Every county has gained, every public library has gained. Circulation in itself may not be an unmixed blessing, unless the books are good books, and the books are not only borrowed, but also read. Statistics are not always explicit on these points. Yet these considerations have not been overlooked, and I think it safe to say that there was never a time when greater attention has been given to the quality of library books, or more earnest and judicious effort made to insure their intelligent and proper use."

"Echoes from the A. L. A. at Atlanta" was the title of a paper by Miss Ella Edwards, of the Buffalo Historical Society Library, in which "the keynote of the Atlanta conference" was found to be "helpfulness."

Miss M. E. Hazeltine, of the Prendergast Library, Jamestown, followed with a bright paper on "Summer hours and work"—ways and means of library activity during the days when "the dog star rages and the women's clubs have ceased to rage." She recommended that shorter hours should prevail during the summer, and thought that such a change would permit of quite as much, if not more, good work being done. "We must not, however, change or shorten the hours in such a way as to interfere with the convenience of working people. If anybody has to suffer, let it be those of the well-to-do or leisure classes, and not the people from the factories and shops. Secondly, any extra time that is gained by shortening hours should be in addition to, and not in lieu of, the regular vacation which every member of the library force should have in such a way as to afford an entire change of occupation and surroundings. There is no common sense in keeping a library open 12 hours per day (simply because of a rule or precedent) if we find we can be of as much good to as many people in eight hours. There are people that come very early or very late now, and if we should open earlier and close later this same class would be on hand. If we kept open all night some of these people would appear at 3 a.m.—but as a general rule these are not the people who get the real benefit of the library." "Special summer work" was touched upon, and suggestions given for the preparation of timely lists, bulletins and exhibits dealing with outdoor subjects.

Discussion followed, in which phases of library activity in summer time were brought out, and adjournment was taken at 4.30. Short visits were made by many to the falls,

and a reception was held at the Niagara Falls Public Library from 5 to 7. Here the guests were received by Mrs. Barnum and members of the board, brief addresses were made by President Porter, Superintendent Welch of the State Reservation, and others, refreshments were served, and the library was examined by the interested visitors.

The evening session, which opened at 8 o'clock, was devoted to a presentation of the work of the women's educational and literary organizations of Western New York. President Peck introduced Miss Avery, of the New York State Library, who said that the Western Federation work was considered so typical of the educational club work of the country that it had been selected as a part of the New York State educational exhibit at the Paris Exposition.

Mrs. Frederic Lyon Charles, of Cuba, first president of the Western Federation, then spoke on "Programs for courses of study." She described a club calendar from Wisconsin which contained in the program for a single afternoon, quotations, the sonnets of Michael Angelo, a topic on housewifery, "From Euripides to Shakespeare," and "The relation of art to evolution," and said that organized federation work was rapidly driving such calendars out of existence. She outlined plans for extending federation work through the country, giving club life to the farmer's family and interesting the women of the farms in books and reading, and in club work.

Other speakers were Mrs. Thomas B. Reading, Miss Hazeltine, who spoke of co-operation between clubs and library at Jamestown, Miss Van Duzee and Miss Danforth, who described the work of the departmental committee of the reciprocity bureau in organizing club work. Miss Martha Van Rensselaer, of Randolph, corresponding secretary of the Western Federation, closed the program with an address on "Work for the country libraries," describing the assistance the rural library was to the farmers in its vicinity. After adjournment a moonlight trip was made to Luna Island, where the visitors had a fine glimpse of the "moon bow"—a white ghost of a rainbow, which lay on the spray of the falls with the bright electric lights of the bridge and the village for a background.

Saturday morning was given up to a trip down the Niagara Gorge, taken as guests of the directors of the Niagara Falls Public Library. The trip was made by the Gorge road in both directions.

In the afternoon, sessions were resumed and "The value of the public library as an investment" was considered. The argument of the speakers, superintendents Emmet Belknap, of Lockport, N. L. Benham, of Niagara Falls, and E. W. Mundy, of Syracuse, was that no community could afford to be without a public library to supplement and continue the work of the schools. The village of culture and intelligence would outstrip in every form of prosperity the other that was devoted only to trade and money-getting. Liberal-minded and progres-

sive citizenship must always pay, and pay largely. The men who have been to the books have gained the experience of the past and are therefore of highest service to the community. There is nothing you can ask which books cannot answer, and therefore the teacher has done his work well who has taught the use of books.

J. H. Canfield, recently called to be librarian of Columbia University Library, New York, was called on at this point. "Does it pay," he said, "to have a neighbor who is intelligent? Who does the business man want for his customer, or the doctor for his patient? The intelligent or the ignorant man? Intelligence increases the circumference of human desires and the power to gratify them. The intelligent neighbor is the man of consequence and in every American community the average man counts. The location of a distinguished man of letters in a village would to-day be a factor in the price of real estate. Best books are the best men and women at their best. It pays to have good neighbors."

J. E. Brandegee, of Utica, and A. L. Peck, of Gloversville, spoke on the point of the willingness of the people to pay by taxation for library privileges, both believing that they would readily and liberally do it when the matter was fully understood. But experience shows that some earnest work is needed to demonstrate the truth that the free library is the cheapest.

W. R. Eastman, secretary of the committee on library legislation, read a paper on "What state law can do for the public library" (see p. 619).

In the business session the proposed amendments to the constitution were adopted providing for annual dues of 50c.; omitting section 8, by which member's assessments were limited to a dollar a year; setting the annual meeting within the months May to October; and admitting local library clubs to affiliation with the state association without additional dues.

Officers were elected as follows: President, J. H. Canfield, Columbia University, New York; Vice-president, P. A. Porter, Niagara Falls; Secretary, Miss M. E. Hazeltine, Jamestown; Treasurer, J. N. Wing, New York.

The final session on Saturday evening was opened by Robert S. Fletcher, of Buffalo, who read a paper on "Maps and charts in the public library," filled with admirable suggestions. The Stanford and the Keith Johnson maps and the Jenkins map case were highly commended.

Mr. Elmendorf called attention to the maps published by the Canadian government, most of which may be obtained free by addressing the Crown Lands Department, Ottawa.

Clinton S. Marsh, North Tonawanda, read a paper on "The school and the home reading of pupils," in which he outlined a plan of required reading of five out of 10 designated books for each of the several grades of his own schools. Full lists of books were named. The first thought of all libraries ought to be for the children.

H. L. Elmendorf, of the Buffalo Public Library, gave their experience in revising the libraries of 10 schools of the city, receiving the



old books and sending back new selections in their stead. The experiment of the first year was so successful that 22 schools were now receiving the same attention.

Mrs. T. W. Elmendorf read the final paper of the meeting, on "Selection of books." She said that the seal of the Wisconsin library commission is the figure of a man sowing grain. What we are sowing we shall reap. Sometimes the hard pointed projectile will rebound from the harder armor plate, where a point of softer steel will penetrate, so the lighter books may sometimes be used to open the way to pierce the armor of ignorance and evil. But unless a clear intelligence governs the selection of books the library work is all a failure.

#### OHIO LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.

*President:* Charles Orr, Case Library, Cleveland.

*Secretary:* Miss Martha Mercer, Public Library, Mansfield.

*Treasurer:* Miss K. W. Sherwood, Public Library, Cincinnati.

#### PENNSYLVANIA LIBRARY CLUB.

*President:* Dr. E. J. Nolan, Academy of Natural Sciences, Philadelphia.

*Secretary:* Miss Mary P. Farr, Philadelphia Normal School.

*Treasurer:* Miss Jean E. Graffen, Free Library of Philadelphia.

The first meeting of the Pennsylvania Library Club for the season 1899-1900 was held on Oct. 9 in the library hall of the Academy of Natural Sciences. The attendance was large. After the completion of the formal business of the meeting, Dr. Nolan, the president, called Mr. Barnwell to the chair, while he delivered an address on the subject "A bone of contention." In this he gave a concise and interesting account of the rise and progress of the library of the institution over which he has been chief officer during so many years. Interesting references were made to the work accomplished by the academy through the influence of its library, and the speaker especially dealt with the points of dissimilarity between the management of a free library and the library of an institution, the main works in which are restricted to one department. Out of this came the "bone of contention" as to methods of classification and arrangement of books.

The speaker took a wide view of the benefits of the generally adopted classification in public libraries and the permissible, special classification suitable to institutions restricted in the character of their collections of books.

After the close of the meeting a pleasant hour was spent in examining the large collection of illustrated books on the subject of natural history, which had been displayed on tables up and down the library hall for the benefit of the visitors.

A vote of thanks was extended to the officers of the academy for the use of the hall and the next meeting was fixed to be held at Bryn Mawr College on the invitation of the dean and Miss Isabel Ely Lord.

#### WESTERN PENNSYLVANIA LIBRARY CLUB.

*President:* Miss Helen Sperry, Carnegie Library, Homestead.

*Secretary-Treasurer:* Miss Mary F. Macrum, Carnegie Library, Pittsburgh.

#### VERMONT LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.

*President:* Miss S. C. Hagar, Fletcher Free Library, Burlington.

*Secretary:* Miss M. L. Titcomb, Goodrich Memorial Library, Newport.

*Treasurer:* E. F. Holbrook, Proctor.

#### WISCONSIN STATE LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.

*President:* Mrs. Charles S. Morris, Berlin.

*Secretary:* Miss Minnie M. Oakley, State Historical Society, Madison.

*Treasurer:* Miss Nellie C. Silverthorn, Public Library, Wausau.

#### NORTH WISCONSIN TRAVELLING LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.

*President:* Mrs. E. E. Vaughn, Ashland.

*Secretary and Treasurer:* Miss Janet Green, Vaughn Library, Ashland.

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### Library Clubs.

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#### BAY PATH LIBRARY CLUB.

*President:* Miss M. Anna Tarbell, Brimfield, Mass.

*Secretary:* Mrs. C. A. Fuller, Oxford, Mass.

*Treasurer:* Miss Nellie A. Cutter, Spencer, Mass.

The Bay Path Library Club held its autumnal meeting at the Hyde Public Library, Sturbridge, Mass., Oct. 12. About 50 were present and the towns represented were Sturbridge, Brimfield, Southbridge, Leicester, Spencer, Oxford, and the Brookfields.

The subject of the morning discussion was the present and possible influence of our libraries. Reports of the several librarians drew out the fact that the circulation of books was largely increasing, and, in all the towns reported from, satisfactory arrangements had been made to accommodate the outlying districts. The discussion also showed that children of foreign born parents were reading a better class of books than the children of American born parents, which was accounted for by the fact that the former depended more upon the teachers and librarians to select their books for them than did the latter. The authority of librarians to select books for readers was enlarged upon, and it was claimed that they should and did exert a great influence to elevate the taste for good reading.

After luncheon at the Elms Hotel, Edward Dixon, of West Brookfield, superintendent of schools, read an interesting and practical paper on the co-operation of the schools and the public library. The paper drew out remarks from Rev. Silvanus Hayward, of Globe Village, who laid great stress on the kind of reading young people should have. Rev. George W. Penniman, of Southbridge, pre-

sented ways in which local historical clubs and public libraries may co-operate. Ex-Governor Chamberlain, of West Brookfield, spoke words of encouragement and inspiration to the teachers and librarians present, alluding to the advantages available in these days over those of 25 years ago. The meeting was informal, practical, and exceedingly interesting.

CLARA A. FULLER, *Secretary*.

#### LIBRARY CLUB OF BUFFALO.

*President:* H. L. Elmendorf, Public Library.

*Secretary-Treasurer:* Miss A. S. Woodcock, Grosvenor Library.

#### CHICAGO LIBRARY CLUB.

*President:* C. B. Roden, Public Library, Chicago.

*Secretary:* Miss Irene Warren, Chicago Normal School.

*Treasurer:* Miss M. E. Ahern, *Public Libraries*, 215 Madison st., Chicago.

#### NEW YORK LIBRARY CLUB.

*President:* Dr. J. S. Billings, N. Y. Public Library.

*Secretary:* W. H. Duncan, Jr., Flatbush Public Library, Brooklyn.

*Treasurer:* Miss Harriet Husted, Y. W. C. A. Library.

The New York Library Club held its first regular meeting for the season of 1899-1900 on Thursday afternoon, Oct. 12, in the parlors of the Y. M. C. A. building on 23d street.

Dr. John S. Billings, the president, made a short address referring to the difficulty of finding subjects for discussion and requesting that suggestions be made by members as to new topics. The executive committee recommended that the club undertake the preparation of a library handbook for New York City. The president concluded his remarks by giving an outline of the work accomplished by the international committee on cataloging. He mentioned that the committee had encountered great difficulties, Germany, for instance, declining to enter into any arrangement unless cards be abandoned; the financial aspect of the subject also looked gloomy.

Papers were read as follows: C. A. Nelson, on "Incunabula in New York City"; F. Weitenkamp, on the Ford Collection in the New York Public Library; A. E. Bostwick, on Brooklyn libraries; Miss M. W. Plummer, on the photograph collection of Pratt Institute Free Library.

Mr. Nelson in his paper stated that there were from 1500 to 2000 cradle books or incunabula in New York City, the greatest number being found at the Union Theological Seminary, New York Public Library, and at Columbia University. He thought it a rather lamentable fact that libraries had not given more attention to historic bibliography, antedating their own Americans, though a few librarians had found time to remove some of the reproach of ignorance of bibliographical treasures cast upon Americans by foreign librarians. One year ago Mr. G. H. Baker, of Columbia University Library, conceived the

idea of forming a special union card catalog of the incunabula in the several New York City libraries, and this work had progressed until 857 such titles were cataloged. Mr. Nelson outlined the plan for a co-operative list of incunabula in American libraries undertaken by Mr. Thomson for the Free Library of Philadelphia.

Mr. Weitenkamp, in reporting on the Ford Collection in the New York Library, referred to the February, 1899, bulletin of that library as giving a short history of the presentation of this remarkable collection, which is estimated to contain about 30,000 volumes, 70,000 pamphlets, and a large number of maps and prints, aggregating 100,000 pieces. In addition, Paul L. Ford has since given to the library a collection of 61 letters between John Davenport, John Winthrop, and others, dating 1638-93, and an interesting collection of maps, plans, etc., relating to real estate in New York City and its vicinity between 1700 and 1800.

"The special value and interest of the printed books in the Ford Collection lies in the remarkable number of works in certain specialties of book production. The personal tastes, predilections and studies of father and sons, aided, no doubt, by facilities offered by personal friendships, brought into being a library which may be roughly divided into half a dozen interesting groups of books on special subjects. In the contemporary pamphlet literature of pre-Revolutionary and Revolutionary times, it is especially rich, and there is also much of this kind of 'material for history' relating to the formation and adoption of the Constitution—in fact, on most of the political questions occupying the public mind from, say, 1750 to 1850. In addition, there are 'the Journals of Congress,' which form a practically complete set of first editions of all issues (including the folio of 1778), most of them in original boards, and uncut."

American biography was pointed out as being very well represented. Another large and important class is that of economics, which includes a noteworthy collection of the editions of Smith's "Wealth of nations." American literature is especially full and includes the works of many minor poets. The speaker called attention also to the large collection of political prints given by the Fords.

Though assigned to speak of "Brooklyn libraries," Mr. Bostwick confined his remarks to the Brooklyn Public Library and its plans for the future. He said that the Brooklyn Public Library proposed to cover the Borough of Brooklyn with a network of small circulating libraries. The city has been asked to open 10 branches next year, and in a few years the Brooklyn Public Library hoped to have more branches than any other library in the United States. It was proposed to so place the branches that each would be the centre of a circle having a radius of three-quarters of a mile, the circles of adjacent libraries touching at their circumference. This expansion was for free circulating purposes only, and would not materially affect the work of the other Brooklyn libraries.

Miss Plummer spoke very interestingly of the photographs in the Pratt Institute Free Library. The collection contained 1600 prints, the majority of which have been purchased abroad. The photographs were mounted on gray cardboard, the average size of board being 11 x 4. Part of the art reference-room in the library building had been fitted up with cases of drawers made to hold the photographs easily when standing upright. The classification used was a modification of the 700s of the Decimal system. The Department of Fine Arts of the institute decided upon the arrangement that would be most suitable for art students and teachers, and the library then modified the decimal notation to conform to this arrangement. The Cutter number is used where an alphabetical order is required for the photographs under any one class. The photographs are shelf-listed and an index to subjects will soon be made. They do not circulate except on a signed permit from the director of the Department of Fine Arts, in which case the pictures desired are allowed to go to the institute. All classes of people come to the library to use the photographs in the reference-room.

W. H. DUNCAN, JR., *Secretary*.

#### LIBRARY ASSOCIATION OF WASHINGTON CITY.

*President*: Dr. H. Carrington Bolton, Cosmos Club.

*Secretary*: W. L. Boyden, Librarian Supreme Council 33<sup>d</sup> A.A. Order of Scottish Rite.

*Treasurer*: T. L. Cole, Statute Law Book Co.

*Meetings*: Second Wednesday evening of each month.

The 41st regular meeting of the Library Association of Washington City, was held at the Columbian University, Oct. 11, 1899, commencing at eight o'clock p.m., the president, Dr. H. C. Bolton, presiding.

The executive committee reported the election to membership of the following: Mr. L. C. Ferrell, Superintendent of Documents; Mr. S. Stefanson and Mr. G. T. Ritchie, assistants in the catalog department of the Library of Congress; Mr. F. C. Hicks, assistant in the map department, Library of Congress; and Miss Caroline Burnite, librarian of the Jacob Tome Institute Library, Port Deposit, Md.

In accordance with a motion passed at the last meeting of this association, the president appointed the following committee to assist Mr. Thomson, of Philadelphia, in the preparation of a bibliography of incunabula in America: A. R. Spofford, Rev. H. J. Shandelle, Dr. Robert Fletcher, Mr. Charles Martel, and Dr. Cyrus Adler. The committee was also given authority to add to its number.

This being the first meeting of the season no regular program was provided, but the evening was devoted to bibliographical experiences of the members during the summer months. Remarks were made by Mr. Solberg regarding the copyright laws, and on statistics bearing on the number and class of works copyrighted. Miss Josephine Clark gave an interesting talk about her trip to Europe the past summer, during

which she visited many of the great historical libraries and colleges in England and on the continent. Mr. Hansen spoke briefly on the card catalog of the Library of Congress, as did also Dr. Adler on the international scientific catalog, while Dr. Bolton remarked on bibliographical matters of interest.

WM. L. BOYDEN, *Secretary*.

### Library Schools and Training Classes.

#### NEW YORK STATE LIBRARY SCHOOLS.

##### ELECTIVE WORK.

The elective system, introduced for the first time last year, is a distinctive feature of this year's work; two new courses are added and others strengthened.

##### COURSES ELECTED AND STUDENTS ELECTING.

<i>Subjects.</i>	<i>Instructors.</i>	<i>No.</i>	<i>Students.</i>
Reference	D. V. R. Johnston	5	F. W. Ashley R. L. Crump Miss Mudge Miss Paine Miss Smith Miss Brown Miss Knight
Children's department	Mrs. S. C. Fairchild	2	
Selection of books	Mrs. Fairchild and Miss Wheeler	4	Miss Barker
			Miss Borden Miss Mudge Miss Saxton Miss Williams
Cataloging	Miss A. A. Jones	1	Miss Williams
Classification	Miss Ada Bunnell	1	Miss Williams

##### NEWS.

Mr. Henry L. Elmendorf, superintendent of the Buffalo Library, called at the State Library Oct. 18, and was induced to speak to the school on some special features of that institution, dwelling particularly on selection of books, the open-shelf room, and work with the schools.

The annual trip of the school to the Indian Ladder, a beautiful height of the Helderberg hills, fell this year on a perfect Indian summer day.

The following name should be added to the list of the junior class given in the October JOURNAL:

Landsberg, Emil M., New York City, Real-Gymnasium, Darmstadt, 1887-90; Ph.B., University of Rochester, 1894.

SALOME CUTLER FAIRCHILD.

#### UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS STATE LIBRARY SCHOOL.

##### LIBRARY CLUB.

The Library Club has been obliged to formally organize, on account of the increasing membership. Three grades of members have been established — active, honorary, and associate. Any member of the staff of the university library, of the Champaign Public Library, or of the Urbana Public Library, or any student who is registered for the library school, may become

an active member. Trustees of the three libraries before mentioned are considered honorary members. Any others interested in library progress may become associate members.

The officers consist of a president, a secretary-treasurer, and an executive committee of three. Meetings will be held once in three weeks during the college year. The first and last meetings of the year will be of a social nature, the one to welcome the new students, the other to say good-bye to the seniors. The intervening meetings will alternate on topics of literary or technical library interest.

At the opening social meeting in October the comedy "Young Mr. Pritchard" was presented by Miss Carpenter, director of physical training for women, Professor Fairfield, professor of Romance languages, and Misses Edwards and McConnel, of the university library staff. After refreshments a short business meeting was held.

#### LOCAL LIBRARY CO-OPERATION.

The university library, the Champaign Public Library, and the Urbana Public Library, are outlining systematic plans for co-operation through the library school in the interest of the clubs and the schools. The club work is now in successful operation. Each woman's club in the twin cities has been asked to send its program for the year to the library school. Here a reference list is made out on each subject, specifying in which of the three libraries the material is to be found. A copy of each list is posted in each library and a copy is sent to the lady having to present the subject.

The Urbana Public Library has given all of its field work to the library school. The students keep up a birthday bulletin, and advertise timely subjects and holiday observances by means of attractive posters. The seniors are now preparing a slip charging system for the library, which now uses a ledger. The seniors are also to prepare a purchase list of new books for the library, amounting to \$100.

The Champaign Public Library opened an attractive children's room on Hallowe'en. The library school loaned all its Hallowe'en posters. On the following Saturday Miss Bennett, of the junior class, talked to the children about Hallowe'en customs. Each Saturday afternoon some member of the library school is to talk to the children in the children's room.

#### SPECIAL LECTURES.

Professor G. D. Fairfield, head of the department of Romance languages, spoke to the advanced bibliography class on Nov. 7. Professor G. M. Moss, head of the department of Greek, speaks to the same class on Nov. 14. Each professor prepares the questions for the written quiz which follows.

Miss Alma Mann, in charge of the kindergarten training class in Indianapolis, is to speak to the library school on Dec. 1 on "The art of story-telling." This will be especially helpful for the children's work in the Champaign Public Library.

#### CURRENT INFORMATION.

The school has felt a need for systematic news-gathering, but the class schedule has prevented any regular work in this line.

This year the following plan is being tried: The Library Club will review recent books and periodicals on library economy at its technical meetings. Miss Mann meets the entire school once a week for a review of general library news. Here attention is called to all library material received during the week, and to all local library items. The seniors have voluntarily formed a current events class, which meets each week. One of the class presides each time and appoints her own successor. Special topics are assigned for reports and brief news items are given.

#### POSITIONS.

The following are among positions filled since the close of the college year in June:

Miss Irene Warren, graduate '96, former librarian of the Chicago Normal School, has been appointed librarian of the College of Pedagogy for Chicago, founded by Mrs. Emmons Blaine, under the presidency of Col. F. W. Parker.

Miss Frances Simpson, '98-'99, has been appointed cataloger in the library of the College of Pedagogy, Chicago.

Miss Martha B. Clarke, '94-'95, and reviser in the Illinois State Library School, '98-'99, assistant cataloger in the Iowa State Library from July to November.

#### Reviews.

CLEGG, James, *ed.* The international directory of booksellers, and bibliophiles' manual; including lists of the public libraries of the world, publishers, book collectors, learned societies and institutions, theological colleges, and a bibliography of works of reference. Rochdale, James Clegg, 1899. 11 + 367 p. 12°.

This directory is an outgrowth of the list of "Second-hand book dealers in the United Kingdom," published in 1886, and is the fifth in the series. The other editions were published in 1888, 1891, and 1894. The name "international directory" includes so much that the volume fails to measure up to it. There is much useful information in the book, but a directory that is not measurably complete should go by some other name. The total number of addresses given in the volume is 14,489. Of booksellers of the United Kingdom the volume contains the names of 3880, 1547 for the United States, and 1434 for the continent of Europe; publishers in the United Kingdom number 493, in the United States, 260; of municipal and other public libraries in the United Kingdom 1294 are listed: for Canada 201, for the United States 701, for Central and South America 250, for the continent of Europe 604, for South Africa 87, for Asia 163, for Australia 153, the total number of libraries being 3453. The di-

rectory of booksellers takes up a little more than half the volume. The towns of a country are arranged alphabetically under the country and the booksellers of the town alphabetically under the town, usually with street address. Firms dealing in second-hand books and those issuing periodical catalogs are indicated. Frequently the character of the books dealt in is also stated. The population of each town is also given, for the United Kingdom, according to the census of 1891, American towns approximately only, but usually higher than the census of 1890. The towns of Canada are arranged under the province; those of the United States in one general alphabet. A few examples will show the incompleteness of the directory. Under Baltimore 16 booksellers are named; there are at least 60, and some of those omitted are the largest in the city. One bookseller is credited to Lancaster, Pa., and that one carries on his business in his residence and does not have a store. There are eight or ten other booksellers in Lancaster and two carry a stock of from 30,000 to 50,000 volumes each. The number of American cities omitted altogether is legion, even though each may have from one to a dozen booksellers. A useful feature of this part of the directory is the list of carriers and forwarding agents and the express rates for parcels of books from London to the several quarters of the Anglo-Saxon part of the earth.

The statistics of libraries include the name of the librarian, date of opening or establishment, number of volumes, annual income, annual expenditure for books, special collections, desiderata, and hours of opening. The libraries of the United States are arranged by towns under each state, but very few have anything like complete statistics. The publications of the Bureau of Education were evidently not consulted.

There is a classified list of the learned societies and institutions, and another of theological colleges in the United Kingdom. The eight-page list of book collectors on all parts of the earth wanting catalogs and reports should be helpful to dealers, as the nature of their collections is indicated. The 32 pages of bibliographical works of reference, compiled by Daniel Hipwell, is useful. It is followed by a one-page bibliography of book-plates and a two-page list of concordances. The names of "book and library catalogues, trade journals, etc.," fill four pages and "journals of the book trades" six. Several journals are entered on both these lists. The latter includes the literary journals, the *Critic*, *Bookman* and *Munsey's Magazine*, but the *Dial* and the *Literary World* are omitted.

Instructions for the registration of books under the British copyright acts, directions for obtaining copyright in the United States, and the text of the Dingley bill relating to books, are given. Mr. Walter Hamilton contributes a three-page essay on book-plates. The volume concludes (not counting the 30 pages of advertisements) with "The book-lover's lexicon," by Halkett Lord.

S: H. R.

## Library Economy and History.

### GENERAL.

The *Library Association Record* for October is a conference number, devoted to the proceedings of the recent Manchester meeting, with account of its social and other features. The president's address is printed in full, the other papers being summarized.

### LOCAL.

*Alameda (Cal.) P. L.* On Oct. 18 Andrew Carnegie offered to give \$10,000 toward a fund for the erection of a new library building.

*Atlanta, Ga. Carnegie L.* At the board meeting of Oct. 3 the report of the committee on building and grounds providing for work on the new building was adopted. It provides (1) That preliminary work looking to the construction of a new library building be entered upon at once; (2) That plans for a building be obtained on a competitive basis as follows: Three prizes to be offered. First prize to be the approval and acceptance of plans for which trustees are to pay percentage on cost of building authorized by the American Society of Architects. Second prize to be \$500 in cash for the plan considered by the awarding committee to be next best. Third prize to be \$300 in cash for the plan considered by the awarding committee to be third best; (3) Competition to be opened to all Atlanta architects, and to 10 architects outside of Atlanta, to be named by the building and grounds committee.

Provision was also made for the appointment of a supervising architect, and J. H. Dinwiddie, of Atlanta, was selected for that position.

*Auburn, N. Y. Case L.* Ground has been broken for the beautiful library building which is to be presented to the Seymour Library Association by Willard E. Case as a memorial to his father. Work upon the foundations will be continued as long as the weather permits, and resumed as promptly as possible, and it is expected that the building will be ready for occupancy by 1901.

The plan for the building has been developed from tentative plans outlined under the auspices of the library association by Carrere & Hastings, of New York, who were appointed the architects for the building. They provide for a building of great beauty. It will be a high single-story structure, with a basement, and an imposing central entrance in the early French renaissance style. It will be placed at least 100 feet back from the street, and the foreground will be developed as a little quadrangular park. The front of the building will be of dark red pressed brick, combined with light Bedford Indiana limestone in trimmings and ornamental details, while the side and rear walls will be of the same brick, with trimmings of gray limestone. The plan of the interior shows a large delivery lobby in the centre of the building, reached directly from the front entrance on the north. Opening from this

lobby, to the left, is the main reading-room and reference library, occupying the entire eastern side of the building. On the western side of the building the corresponding space is divided by light partitions into three rooms for various uses. On the southern side of the lobby, opposite the entrance, is the delivery counter, librarian's room, and the stairway to the basement. Back of these is the stack-room, projecting into the rear yard, where ample space is afforded for future extensions of the stack when its first capacity is reached, the full depth of the lot being 330 feet. In the basement, besides furnace-room and toilet-rooms on the west, and a store-room in the centre, a large, well-lighted room, of the same size as the main reading-room upstairs, occupies the eastern portion.

*Hartford (Ct.) P. L.* (61st rpt. — year ending June 1, '99.) Added 7039; total "about 64,000." Issued 198,795. New registration 1615; cards in use 10,970. Mention is made of the great increase in use of the reference department, which has outgrown its present accommodations.

*Harvard Univ. L.* Through the generosity of Asst. Prof. A. C. Coolidge and of J. Randolph Coolidge, Esq., of Boston, the library has lately been enabled to buy the great collection of books relating to the Crusades and to the history of the Latin East, brought together by Count Paul Riant, who died in 1888.

Count Riant was a thorough scholar, who had devoted his life to the study of the Crusades and the historical questions connected with them. As the founder of the "Société de l'Orient Latin," as a prolific author, and as a keen and learned expert in the use of manuscripts, he has done more than any other modern writer to advance our knowledge in this field. At his chateau in the Valais, where he passed his summers, he had gathered a great library of books relating to the subject of his studies, and it is the portion of this collection relating to the Crusades and the history of the Latin East that has now been bought for the Harvard Library. The collection probably numbers about 15,000 volumes, and after the removal of duplicates, which will be retained in Paris for sale, may add 10,000 volumes or more to the library. The printed catalog of the collection covers nearly a thousand pages, and while the collection is strongest in the special subjects already mentioned, including the whole course of the struggle between Turkey and the nations of Europe, it is also rich in the general sources of mediæval history, and particularly ecclesiastical history, and contains much that is interesting and precious bearing on the customs and superstitions of the Middle Ages, the worship of relics, of the Virgin and saints, pilgrimages to holy places, the history of the military and religious orders, etc. The collection includes about a hundred books printed before 1500, and 117 manuscripts.

Another smaller section of Count Riant's library relating to Scandinavia was bought some years ago by Yale University.

*Lawrence (Mass.) F. P. L.* (27th rpt. — 1898.) Added 1495; total 47,842. Issued, home use 119,559; hall use 27,630. New registration 1140; total registration 10,260. Receipts \$13,060.79; expenses \$12,554.40.

"The most important event of the year has been the establishment of a branch library in South Lawrence." An interesting feature was the giving of free art exhibitions through the facilities offered by the Library Art Club. While the gain in home use has been slight, there has been a large increase in the reference use of books, which rose from 19,762 in 1897 to 27,630 in 1898. It is thought that the delivery to the schools of books for school use and the increase of duplicate copies for this purpose would aid much in school work; additional bookroom is needed.

*Lincoln (Neb.) P. L.* The work of reorganizing the library, in its new home in the Oliver Theatre building, is going forward as rapidly as is practicable. Books outstanding in the hands of borrowers have been returned to the number of 700, about 400 volumes have been given toward the new collection, and nearly the same number have been purchased. It is hoped to open reading and reference rooms within a few weeks.

*Macom (Ga.) P. L.* The financial straits of the library, which have been serious for a long time, culminated on Oct. 5, when the directors decided to give up the library and pay off outstanding obligations through personal efforts of the board. This decision aroused much public interest, and ways and means of continuing the institution were generally discussed, with the result that the action first decided upon has been deferred in the hope that the necessary support may be forthcoming and it may prove possible to continue the library.

*Milwaukee (Wis.) P. L.* The first anniversary of the opening of the children's room of the Milwaukee Public Library was celebrated Oct. 3 by a birthday party, to which the children and their friends were invited.

The room was decorated with flowers and vines, while a loan exhibit of pictures representing autumn scenes was hung for the occasion.

In the centre of the room one of the tables was spread with a lunch cloth, embroidered with yellow, in the centre of which was a large mound of purple and yellow pansies. In the middle of the flowers a tall yellow candle burned all day, to show the friends that we were one year old. The children, more particularly the little ones, were delighted with the birthday candle, and many of them asked if we should have two next year.

Each visitor was presented with a souvenir book-mark, bearing a little cut of the room at the top.

The first year's statistics of the room may be of interest. The open-shelf system was a novelty in Milwaukee, and no one felt quite sure what would be the result of turning the children loose among the books. The results so far have proved most satisfactory. The

room contains about 7700 books, including magazines and picture books.

The circulation from Oct. 3, 1898, to Oct. 3, 1899, was 115,050. The largest number issued in any one day was 1200, on March 4. The daily average was 343. An inventory taken in July showed but two books missing.

The children have learned to replace the books on the shelves after they are discharged, and do so with comparatively few mistakes.

There is a gratifying improvement in the quiet and order of the room, as also in the condition of the books, both as to cleanliness and mutilations of all sorts. The active interest of the children in all that pertains to the welfare of the room, the helpful and appreciative spirit shown, are a continual source of encouragement and inspiration. M. E. D.

*New York City. Library consolidation.* A significant suggestion toward the consolidation of the various free libraries of the city into an organized public library system was made on Oct. 16 at the library hearing before the Board of Estimate and Apportionment, when representatives of the libraries made application for aid from the city budget. In receiving the application of the New York Free Circulating Library Comptroller Coler asked whether the general consolidation of all libraries under city control would not be advisable, and was answered in the affirmative. Henry E. Howland, in presenting the application of the Free Circulating Library, said that the directors had been in communication with the directors of the New York Public Library with a view to effecting a consolidation and making the Free Library the distributing agent of the Public Library. The representative of the Aguilar Library also favored the suggestion.

*New York P. L.—Astor, Lenox, and Tilden Foundations.* (Rpt. — Year ending June 30, '99; in N. Y. P. L. *Bulletin*, Oct., p. 381.) Added and placed on shelves 34,182 v. (17,188 gifts); 16,986 pm. (11,848 gifts). "The number of volumes actually received during the year is much larger. The Ford gift is estimated at about 100,000 v. and pm., of which nearly 8000 have been cataloged and accessioned." The total actual receipts for the year is estimated at 55,593 v. and 101,698 pm. "The total number of volumes on the shelves and available for use at the end of June was 459,248, and of pamphlets about 117,000."

"Steady progress has been made in the reclassification of the library, the subjects of French, Italian, Spanish, and Portuguese literature, general science, gardening and forestry, learned societies in part, Spanish, Portuguese, and French history, and the anatomical and physiological periodicals having been arranged, and the books and pamphlets marked with the new relative relation marks, and the corresponding marks noted in all catalogs." The number of works thus reclassified and marked during the year was 24,722 volumes and 1880 pamphlets. "The new classification has been so far worked out in the different departments of the library that the scheme has been

printed in a provisional form for official use. So far as carried out it has been found to work well in supplying the wants of readers."

During the year there were cataloged 54,769 volumes and 32,095 pamphlets, for which purpose there were written 255,191 cards and 21,944 slips for the printer, from each of which slips five printed cards were obtained. At the end of June the new index catalog in the Astor reading-room contained 418,615 cards, and those in the two Lenox reading-rooms 123,450 cards. The number of cards added to each catalog during the year was 178,615 for the Astor and 72,300 for the Lenox.

"During the year the number of readers who visited the two buildings was 111,038, the Astor having received 84,977 and the Lenox 26,061. This is an increase of a little more than 7000 readers over the preceding year, the increase being 3334 at the Astor and 3759 at the Lenox. The daily average of readers was 358. The total number of volumes and periodicals issued to readers in both buildings during the 12 months, not including the use made of the open reference shelves, was 425,838. Of the 357,906 volumes called for at the Astor, the largest number, 66,324, or 18 per cent., belonged to English and American literature; 63,754, or 18 per cent., were in applied science; 67,123, or 16 per cent., related to economics and social questions, and 31,131, or 9 per cent., pertained to the literature of continental Europe. The total number of volumes given out to readers at the Lenox was 67,932, of which 12,396, or 18 per cent., related to American history and genealogy."

The open reference shelves in both libraries were freely used by a large number of readers. "Nearly 4500 volumes are on the open shelves at the Astor building, of which only four volumes have been reported as missing. At the Lenox building only two volumes have been reported missing out of about 5000 volumes on the open reference shelves in two reading-rooms. In addition to these losses about 25 volumes have been mutilated during the year by cutting out a leaf or plate. The art galleries and exhibition rooms at the Lenox building had 33,569 visitors during the year. The total number of readers in the periodical department during the fiscal year was 16,000, there being a daily average of over 50."

Several special departments—Oriental, Slavonic, Public documents—are noted, as are the features presented through the bulletin during the year. An apprentice class for the instruction of assistants has been formed, admission being limited to persons having a good high school education and some knowledge of modern languages.

In the gifts of the year the Ford collection is pre-eminent; its special characteristics are briefly noted, and other gifts of importance are named.

*New York, Washington Heights F. L.* The corner-stone of the new library building was laid on the afternoon of Oct. 24. The building is to cost \$20,000, of which \$10,000 was given by

one person, whose identity has not been revealed.

*Peoria (Ill.) P. L.* Sometime ago a special committee was appointed by the library board to inquire and report upon means of increasing the usefulness of the Public Library. The report of that committee was submitted on Oct. 10, and after reviewing conditions that tend to limit circulation, recommended, 1, "That every adult resident of the city shall be entitled to the privileges of the library by signing an application for membership, stating name, occupation, and residence"; 2, "That a miscellaneous collection of not less than 1000 volumes be placed in the main hall for free access and examination, and to be issued for home use"; 3, "That suitable smaller rooms shall be designated for the use of students and others who desire to read or consult books where silence is desired," so that the main room shall be free for ordinary conversation, and the examination and reading of books placed there; 4, "That rooms be set apart respectively for men and women, where books and periodicals may be taken and read, under such restrictions only as good morals, good manners, and good taste dictate."

*Pittsfield, Mass. Berkshire Athenaeum L.* A library training class was opened on Oct. 15 with six members. Admission was by competitive examination in simple branches of literature, current history, and similar subjects, and the members are required to give an average service of 20 hours a week to the library for the year ending Oct. 15, 1900, with the exception of a fortnight's vacation. No guarantee of employment in the library is given, but it is understood that vacancies in the staff will be filled from members of the training class. The training will include an hour a day in class-room, where the librarian will give a lecture once a week. Two mornings a week lessons in English literature will be given by Miss Harriet Hawes. Miss S. C. Nelson will give instruction in handwriting and printing, and in cataloging, and routine work in the various departments of the library will also be done.

*St. Joseph (Mo.) P. L.* The co-operation between the library and the schools is evidenced in the publication by the local board of education of a classed "Reading list for school and home," arranged for grades and compiled by the library staff. The list contains about 325 titles, and is intended for free distribution among teachers, parents, and children. In order to see to what extent library books are used in the schools, Mr. Wright has offered three money prizes—one of \$2 and two of \$1.50 each—for the best three letters written between March 1 and April 1, 1900, about any book or books or in the reading list noted, "mentioning the book found most interesting and the books which were of greatest help with school work and lessons." The \$2 prize is offered to pupils of the 8th grade, the others to those of the 7th and 6th grades respectively. In mentioning books, competitors are to "give author, title, and call number, and why you like them."

"Dewey day" was celebrated at the library by an exhibition of two portraits of the admiral mounted on a blackboard, with views of the battle of Manila and a picture of the flag. The board was decorated with stars representing the states of the Union.

A list of books for machinists was printed in the local organ of the labor unions, and will be followed from time to time with lists on other industrial subjects.

*St. Louis (Mo.) P. L.* The library has prepared a list of the sets of books to be issued to the schools as supplementary reading. These include 77 titles, which are supplied in from one to 20 sets, each set including from 25 to 50 copies. Of "Robinson Crusoe," in three editions, there are five sets, 145 copies in all; of "Books for the bairns" there are 700 copies, and so on. The books are issued on requisition of the principal; they may be retained for one month, and transportation to the nearest delivery station is provided by the library. The selection has evidently been made with care and judgment.

*San Francisco, Cal.* It is stated that plans are on foot toward the consolidation of the Mercantile Library with the library of the Mechanics' Institute, for which it is proposed to erect a new and thoroughly adequate building. It has been understood for some time that the affairs of the Mercantile Library were in an unsatisfactory financial condition, and it has been unable to keep its equipment up to the standard desired.

#### FOREIGN.

*CREDLAND, W. R.* The Manchester Public Free Libraries: a history and description, and guide to their contents and use. Manchester, 1899. 16 + 282 p. O.

Mr. Credland, who is deputy chief librarian of the Manchester libraries, has made in this volume an interesting contribution to the history of the library movement in Great Britain. His work is a record of library development in Manchester, through the Public Free Libraries, the organization, administration, and characteristics of which are described in detail. There are sketches of the various librarians, of the officials connected with or interested in the library's history, abstracts of the speeches delivered at its various anniversaries, a review of the work done, so far as this can be measured, and interesting descriptions of the various collections and of the special treasures of the reference library. The book is an excellent example of library history and has numerous illustrations, giving interior and exterior views.

*Florence, Bibl. Nazionale.* The library has just been presented by the daughter of Niccolò Tommaseo with all the manuscripts and letters of this eminent scholar, who died a quarter of a century ago. She has added the letters and books gathered together by her brother, also deceased, with a view to a new edition of Tommaseo's works. The letters addressed to the latter, sometimes accompanied by the replies,



number 56,657, and make a rich addition to the library's newly founded Archive of Italian Literature. Various time limitations are imposed by the donor on printing from the mss., though they may be studied. Vieusseux's important letters to Tommaseo match the thousand or more letters from Tommaseo already owned by the library, and are available at once. — *The Nation*.

*Leeds (Eng.) F. P. L.* (29th rpt. — year ending March 25, '99). Added, ref. lib. 2696; lending and branch libs. 7927; total 194,177; of which 57,428 are in the reference library. Issued, ref. lib. 120,585; central lending lib. 889,481; branch libs. 433,340; visits to news-rooms 1,560,000; no. cardholders 27,071.

"The difficulties which have been experienced in obtaining suitable male assistants to fill the vacancies in the staff have induced the committee to try the experiment of throwing the employment open to persons of both sexes. Female assistants are now engaged, and they have been found suited to the employment."

*Nottingham (Eng.) F. P. Ls.* (Rpt., 1898-99.) Added 3750; total 92,155 (ref. lib. 33,337). Issued 382,130 (fict. 54.6 %); attendance 2,253,211. Elaborate tables are given for the accessions, circulation, etc., of the central library and the 14 branches. There are three separate children's rooms in operation.

### Gifts and Bequests.

*Beaver Falls, Pa.* Work is going forward to obtain funds for the purchase of a site for the library building conditionally offered by Andrew Carnegie. It is proposed to issue bonds to the amount of \$15,000 or \$20,000.

*Conneaut, O.* Andrew Carnegie has offered to give a public library building, to cost \$13,000, to the town of Conneaut, which is a docking centre for the Carnegie iron interests of Pittsburgh.

*Duluth, Minn.* On Oct. 23 the fact was made public that Andrew Carnegie had offered to donate \$50,000 for a free public library building, on condition that the city furnish a site and provide for maintenance.

*Emporia, Kan.* Early in October Andrew Carnegie offered to give to the Emporia College as much money as may be required for the erection of an adequate library building. The gift is made in honor of the memory of John B. Anderson, under whom Mr. Carnegie at one time worked, and whose library was given as the nucleus of the Emporia College Library.

*Ludlow, Ind.* Allen M. Fletcher, of Indianapolis, has offered to build and equip a public library for Ludlow as a memorial to his father and grandfather. He has purchased a suitable site, and the preliminary work of preparing for the building has been begun.

*Newark, N. Y.* At a public meeting held on Oct. 16 Henry C. Rew agreed to erect upon property to be given by him for the purpose a

public library building to cost \$10,000, the building to be deeded to the trustees of the Newark Free Library or to the village trustees, under conditions defining its use and care, and to be equipped and maintained by the village. The library is to be known as the Rew Library, and will be erected as a memorial to Mr. Rew's father and mother. It will be designed by Charles Frost, of Chicago.

*Newport, R. I. Redwood L.* By the will of the late Cornelius Vanderbilt the Redwood Library receives a bequest of \$10,000.

*Newtown (Ct.) L. A.* At a meeting of the association Oct. 24, Miss Rebecca D. Beach, of New Haven, offered to erect a stone library building as a family memorial, provided a site be furnished. The offer was accepted.

*Prescott (Ariz.) F. L.* Andrew Carnegie has offered to give \$4000 toward a library building, provided an equal sum is raised through local effort,

*Sag Harbor (L. I.), L. A.* The will of the late Judge C. P. Daly, of New York, contained a bequest of \$10,000 to the Sag Harbor Library Association. A codicil to the will, however, revokes the bequest, "as I am satisfied that the people of Sag Harbor do not take any interest in the establishment of a permanent library in that village." The library was established about 15 years ago, Judge Daly being one of those especially interested in its organization, on a subscription basis, the annual fee being \$2 per year; but it never proved financially independent. Until about a year ago it was maintained at a loss, largely by its founders. It was then opened for three days in the week, then twice a week, then for one evening in the week, and finally it was closed entirely. It is now owned and maintained by Joseph Fahys exclusively for his employees.

*San Diego, Cal.* At a meeting of the city council, on Oct. 6, formal acceptance was made of the offer of \$50,000 for a public library, made by Andrew Carnegie through Mrs. A. E. Horton, of San Diego. An ordinance was adopted providing for the sale of certain city property, the funds to be devoted to the purchase of a library site.

*Sioux Falls, S. D.* On Oct. 3 W. H. Lyon, of Sioux Falls, deeded, jointly with his wife, to the city a building formerly used by the Unitarian Church, on condition that it be used for a city library. The gift has been formally accepted by the city council.

*Tyrone, Pa.* It was announced on Oct. 21 that Andrew Carnegie had offered to give \$50,000 for a public library building for Tyrone, provided the city would furnish a site and maintain the library at a cost of not less than \$3000 per year.

*Washington (D. C.), P. L.* On Oct. 9 Andrew Carnegie offered to add \$50,000 to the sums already pledged by him toward the new library building. This brings the total amount given by him up to \$350,000.

### Librarians.

**BAKER, Miss Ethel**, of the New York State Library School, 1897-98 and 1899, was married Oct. 12 to Mr. Edmund Lathrop Andrews, of Chicago.

**BATES, Edward**, of the St. Louis Public Library, has been appointed librarian of the U. S. Treasury Department, Washington. Mr. Bates makes the fifth assistant from the St. Louis Library who has successfully passed the civil service examination and received a government appointment. His immediate predecessor was Miss Alice Fichtenkam, now cataloger in the office of Superintendent of Documents.

**BROWN, Arthur N.**, who was librarian of the U. S. Naval Academy at Annapolis from 1886 to 1895, has been again appointed to that post, relieving Professor M. Oliver, who has been assigned to the Department of Marine Engineering at the Naval Academy.

**CAPEN, Edward**, for 25 years librarian of the Haverhill (Mass.) Public Library, resigned that position in October, on the anniversary of his 78th birthday, the resignation to take effect from Oct. 1. In accepting the resignation, and in token of their appreciation for this long period of faithful service, the trustees unanimously voted that so long as his connection with the library should continue Mr. Capen should be known as librarian emeritus — "a title due to one who, after long service and because of the fulness of years, relinquishes with honor the exacting performance of high public duties." Mr. Capen's term of service as a librarian dates from May 12, 1852, when he was elected the first librarian of the Boston Public Library. This post he filled until December, 1874, when he was selected to have charge of the Haverhill Library, and Prof. C. C. Jewett, as superintendent, assumed the headship of the Boston institution. Mr. Capen is a life member of the American Library Association, having joined that body in the year of its organization, 1876.

**GRAVES, Frank B.**, assistant librarian of the Mechanics' Institute Library of San Francisco, was on Oct. 6 elected librarian of the Alameda (Cal.) Free Library. Mr. Graves has been for 15 years connected with the Mechanics' Institute Library, having served as assistant librarian for the past five years. He will enter upon his new duties on Jan. 1.

**HITCHLER, Miss Theresa**, formerly head cataloger at the New York Free Circulating Library, has been appointed head cataloger of the Brooklyn (N. Y.) Public Library. Miss Hitchler had been connected for over 13 years with the New York library, where in addition to her work as head of the cataloging department she had been in charge of the training of assistants and had developed the apprentice class system in use there, while her enthusiasm and executive ability were important factors in the extension of the library's work.

**ORR, Charles**, librarian of the Case Library, Cleveland, O., was on Oct. 13 appointed a

member of the Ohio State Library Commission, succeeding Captain Charles A. Reynolds, who has been called to service in the Philippines.

**UTLEY, George Burwell**, has been appointed assistant in the Watkinson Library, Hartford, Ct., succeeding William N. Carlton, now librarian of Trinity College. Mr. Utley is a graduate of Brown University, of the class of '99, and has had experience as assistant in the university library.

**WHITE, Hervey**, reference librarian of the John Crerar Library, Chicago, has been obliged to sever his connection with that library on account of ill-health. He has been succeeded by Henry A. Millis, Ph.D. Mr. White's novel, "Differences," recently published by Small, Maynard & Co., has had a cordial reception; it deals with social questions and conditions, evidently the result of the writers' experience and observation during his college settlement work.

**WHITNEY, Miss Ellen Frances**, for over 26 years librarian of the Concord (Mass.) Public Library, has resigned that position and has been unanimously elected librarian emeritus of the institution she has served so long. One year ago last April Miss Whitney completed 25 years of service, and she was then presented with a gold lined bowl from the directors in commemoration of her long service. She has been in charge of the library ever since the dedication and occupation of the present library building, and has been unflinching in her devotion to its interests. She has been succeeded by Miss Helen Whitney Kelly, who has acted as assistant librarian for some years past.

**WHITNEY, Professor Henry**, has been appointed librarian of the Blackstone Memorial Library, Branford, Ct. Mr. Whitney was for 23 years professor of English literature in Beloit College, Mich. He is a brother of James L. Whitney, of the Boston Public Library, and a half-brother of Professor Whitney, of Yale.

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### Cataloging and Classification.

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The *BOSTON P. L. Bulletin* for October contains part 2 of the "Bibliography of Boston," begun in the number for February, 1898. It is a full and careful list of maps and views of Boston and Boston harbor, 1633-1899, prepared by the late J. F. Carret and completed by John Murdock.

The *BROOKLYN (N. Y.) P. L.* has issued the first number of a monthly bulletin, to be devoted to news and notes concerning the library, lists of accessions, etc. In addition to record of additions the number contains short special lists on Spain and Kindergarten.

*ILION (N. Y.) F. P. L.* Finding list supplement, 1895 to 1899. 54 p. O.

Four separate author-and-title lists: "juvenile appendix" and "adult appendix" for 1895 respectively, and the same for 1899.

The **LOWELL (Mass.) CITY LIBRARY** has issued a reference list on Dante in a two-page folder, giving original and English versions of his writings, and a selection of the literature relating to his work.

**MANCHESTER (Eng.) P. F. Ls.** Quarterly record, v. 3, no. 2. Books placed in the reference library from April to June, 1899. p. 41-66. O.

The **NEW HAVEN (Cx.) P. L. Bulletin** with its October number begins a fourth series in new and greatly improved fashion, as a simple classed accession list, without advertising matter, clearly printed by linotype. Mr. Stetson says that this method of printing has been chosen "not with a view to keeping the slugs for future use, as we have found practically no saving in that procedure in our experience," but for the excellence of the typography. In its present shape the bulletin is a compact, attractive publication.

**PUBLIC LIBRARY OF NEW SOUTH WALES, Sydney.** Current supplement to the catalogue, for the years 1896-98: Reference department. Sydney, 1899. 4 + 648 p. Q. bds.

The first supplement for 1896-97 was noted in L. J. 23:593. The present volume, which follows its predecessor in style and plan, is larger by over 200 pages, due, probably in a measure, to the apparent increase in analytical entries. The form of printing, large type and lack of compactness, are also rather wasteful of space. In the subject index the omission of cross-references, which will be inserted in the complete catalog to be issued in 1900, leads to some apparent inconsistencies, which will probably be rectified. A curious division is that of "Tales," where a "General" class is followed by country divisions. Under "American" tales entry is made only of Bret Harte's "Complete works," while "Poe's tales" and Matthews' "Vignettes of Manhattan" are classed as "General"; in this latter division also Kipling's "Soldier stories" appear, the only entry under "Indian" tales being Burton's "Vikram and the vampire." The classification is close, and the analytical entries practically index many important periodicals and serial publications as well as composite books.

The **SALEM (Mass.) P. L. Bulletin** for October contains reference lists on Sewerage, Football, and J. G. Whittier.

**SAN FRANCISCO (Cal.) F. P. L.** Catalogue of books in the classes of natural science and useful arts. San Francisco, August, 1899. 4 + 262 + 16 p. O.

A classed short-title text, prefaced by a subject index and followed by an author index.

The **SAN FRANCISCO F. P. L. Bulletin** for October contains a special classed list on American local history and genealogy.

The **SAN FRANCISCO MECHANICS' INSTITUTE Bulletin** for October covers various phases of

South African affairs in short reference lists on South Africa, Transvaal, the Boers, Jameson's raid, Paul Kruger, and Cecil Rhodes.

**WILMINGTON (Del.) INSTITUTE F. L.** Classified list of selected books for young people. Revised, 1899.

#### FULL NAMES.

*The following are supplied by Harvard University Library.*

Beveridge, Albert Jeremiah (The vitality of the American constitution);  
Dumas, William Thomas (The golden day and miscellaneous poems);  
Gillett, John Henry (A treatise on the law of indirect and collateral evidence);  
Lindley, Curtis Holbrook (A treatise on American law relating to mines and mineral lands);  
Smith, Orlando Jay (A short view of great questions).

*The following are supplied by the Catalogue Department, Library of Congress:*

Allen, John Gamaliel (Topical studies—American history);  
Barnum, Samuel Weed (Romanism as it is);  
Bates, Frank A [masa] (Stories of lake, field, and forest);  
Benedict, Neal Dow (The Valdes and Copper River trail, Alaska);  
Burke, John James (Characteristics of the early church);  
Chambers, Isaiah Mench (Harold Payson);  
Crawford, Charles Howard (Scenes of earlier days in crossing the plains to Oregon);  
Dyer, Henry Page (The divine service: an altar manual);  
Everett, Herbert Henry Chilvers, *joint author with* Lewis, Samuel James (Achievement: a book of poems);  
Fullerton, Anna Martha (Surgical nursing);  
Gallagher, Charles Wesley (God revealed; or, Nature's best word);  
Greene, Harry Noyes (The tax law of New York state);  
Hall, Andrew Gustaf (Svenska baptisternas historia);  
Hazen, Marshman Williams (The first book of word and sentence work);  
Hobbs, Charles Austin (The elements of geometry);  
Keyes, Monroe James (Tourists' illustrated guide-book to Lake Erie and Niagara Falls);  
Klauder, Alexander Laurence Alphonsus (Catholic practice at church and at home);  
Kyle, David Braden (A text-book of diseases of the nose and throat);  
Lawler, James Joseph (Modern plumbing);  
Levisse, Aaron Burton (Christianity versus orthodox theology);  
Loveland, Franklin Olds (A treatise on the law and proceedings in bankruptcy);  
McLaren, Christopher Columbus (Liberty, love, and law);  
Magnusson, Peter Magnus (Great educators);  
Mendes, Henry Pereira (Looking ahead);  
Myler, Larkin Sylvester, *comp.* (Jewels of masonic oratory);

Nevin, Robert Peebles (The beautiful river, and other poems);  
 Roark, Ruric Nevel (Method in education);  
 Rodgers, William Champ (A treatise on the law of domestic relations);  
 Ryan, Frank Jamieson (Protestant miracles);  
 Stevens, James Stacy (Outlines of general physics);  
 Walbert, Martin Wetzel (The coming battle);  
 Ward, Edward Louis Colen (The scrap-book);  
 Wilder, Robert Parmelee (Among India's students);  
 Williamson, Anna Gertrude Williams [*Mrs. Edwin Thomas Williamson*] (In fond remembrance of the old home).

### Bibliography.

BIOLOGY. Ward, H. B. Recent fresh water investigations. (*In* Transactions, Am Microscopical Society, 1899. v. 20, p. 261-304.)

CARLO ALBERTO. *King of Sardinia*. Carritti, Domenico. Bibliografia Carloalbertina, pel cinquantesimo anniversario della morte del Re magnanimo (R. deputazione sora gli studi di storia patria per le antiche provincie e la Lornbardia). Torino, G. B. Paravia, 1899. 79 p. 4°.

CHILD STUDY. Wilson, L. N. Bibliography of child study. Worcester, Mass., Clark Univ. Press, [N. Y., G. E. Stechert,] 1898. 2+50 p. O. 50 c.

— Wilson, L. N. Bibliography of child study for the year 1898. Worcester, Mass., Clark Univ. Press, [N. Y., G. E. Stechert,] 1899. 26 p. O. 25 c.

These two publications give, in convenient pamphlet form, the bibliographies contributed serially by Mr. Wilson to the *Pedagogical Seminary*, and they should prove helpful to teachers and others interested in the subject treated. The form adopted is an annotated author list, followed by a good brief subject index. In the first bibliography 641 titles are recorded; in the second 333.

EDUCATION. Wyer, J. I. Recent educational bibliography, II. (*In School Review*, October, 1899, v. 7, no. 8, p. 478-482.)

A classed annotated record of recent educational bibliography in various fields, useful as a guide to material for selection.

EVOLUTION. King, H. Churchill. A selected bibliography of evolution. (*In* Oberlin College Library bulletin, v. 1, no. 4.) Oberlin, O., 1899.

FRENCH LANGUAGE. Nyrop, K. Grammaire historique de la langue française. v. 1. Paris, Picard, 1899. 488 p. O. 10 fr.

Contains an extended bibliography, p. 409-454.

GEOGRAPHY. *Annales de géographie: bibliographie de 1898, 8e bibliographie annuelle: publiée sous la direction de M. L. Rave-  
 neau, [etc.] Paris, Armand Colin & Cie. [1899.] 304 p. O. 10 fr.*

This eighth issue of the special bibliography published annually under the auspices of the editors of the *Annales de Géographie*, M.M. Vidal de la Blache, Gallois and Le Margerie, maintains the high standard set by its predecessors. Its comprehensiveness and valuable critical and descriptive annotations make it a most valuable guide and authority in its special field. The present volume follows the general style of former issues, giving a main division geographically classed and subdivided, with full entries, each numbered in sequence, and an appendix indexing the names of the writers and travellers cited and referring to the number of the main entry. M. Rave-  
 neau, the editor and compiler-in-chief, has had, as usual, the co-operation of some 50 eminent geographers of Europe and America in the preparation of the full annotations. The bibliography includes books, maps, and periodical articles of importance.

PALEOGRAPHY. Reusens, E. H. J. *Elements de paléographie*. Louvain, Reusens, 1899. 496 p. O. 25 fr.

Contains a bibliography of the subject, p. 468-496.

POPULATION. Weber, A. F. *The growth of cities in the nineteenth century: a study in statistics*. N. Y., Macmillan, 1899. 16+495 p. 8°, (Columbia Univ. studies in hist., economics, and public law, v. 11.) net, \$4; pap., net, \$3.50.

Contains a short bibliography of population, p. 476-478.

RETANA, W. E. *La imprenta en Filipinas (1593-1810)*. Madrid, M. Minuesa de los Rios, 1899. 280 p. 4°, 10 pes.

SPORT. Slater, J. H. *Illustrated sporting books: descriptive survey of a collection of English illustrative works of a sporting and racy character, with an appendix of prints relating to sports of the field*. N. Y., Scribner, 1899. 8+203 p. 12°. \$3.

THALLIUM. Doan, Martha. *Index to the literature of thallium, 1861-96*. (Smithsonian miscellaneous collections, no. 1171, 1899.)


### Anonymous and Pseudonyms.

JOSIAH FLYNT, pseud. of Josiah Flynt Willard, not Frank Willard, as previously stated. Frank is only a nickname. This is stated on authority of Mr. Willard's publishers.—M. A. T.



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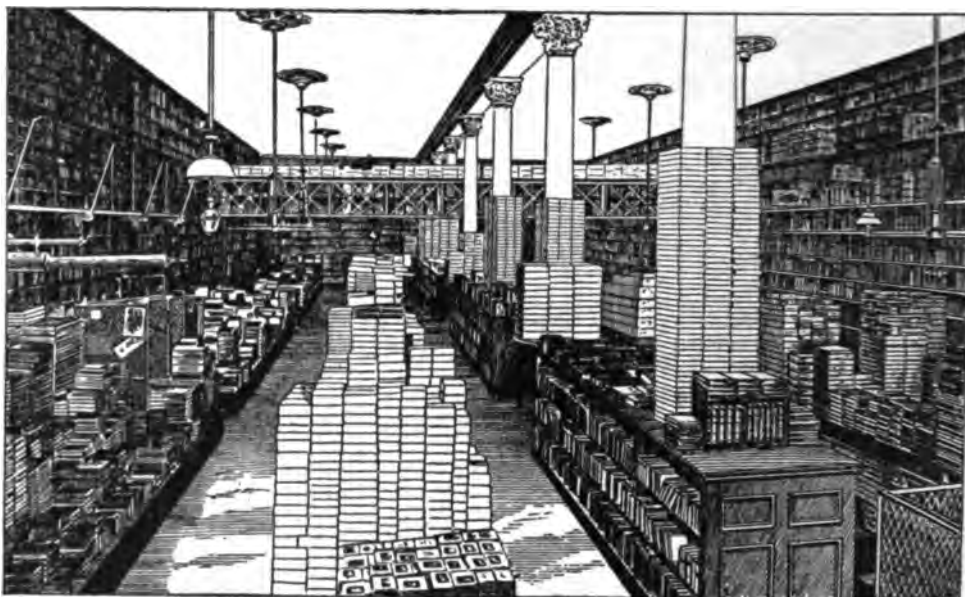


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DECEMBER, 1899

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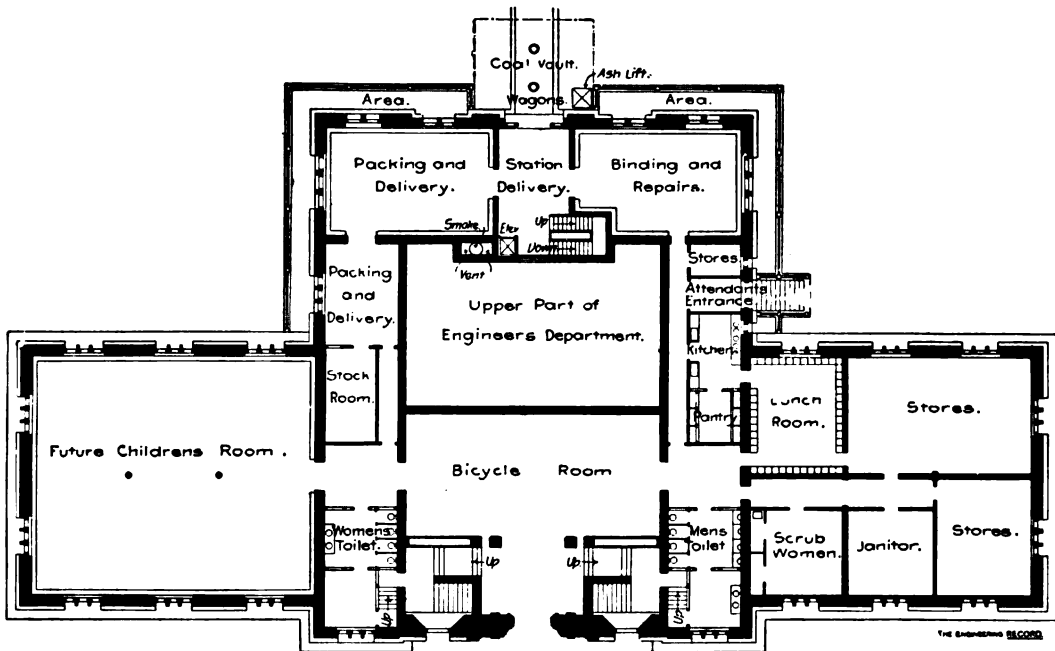
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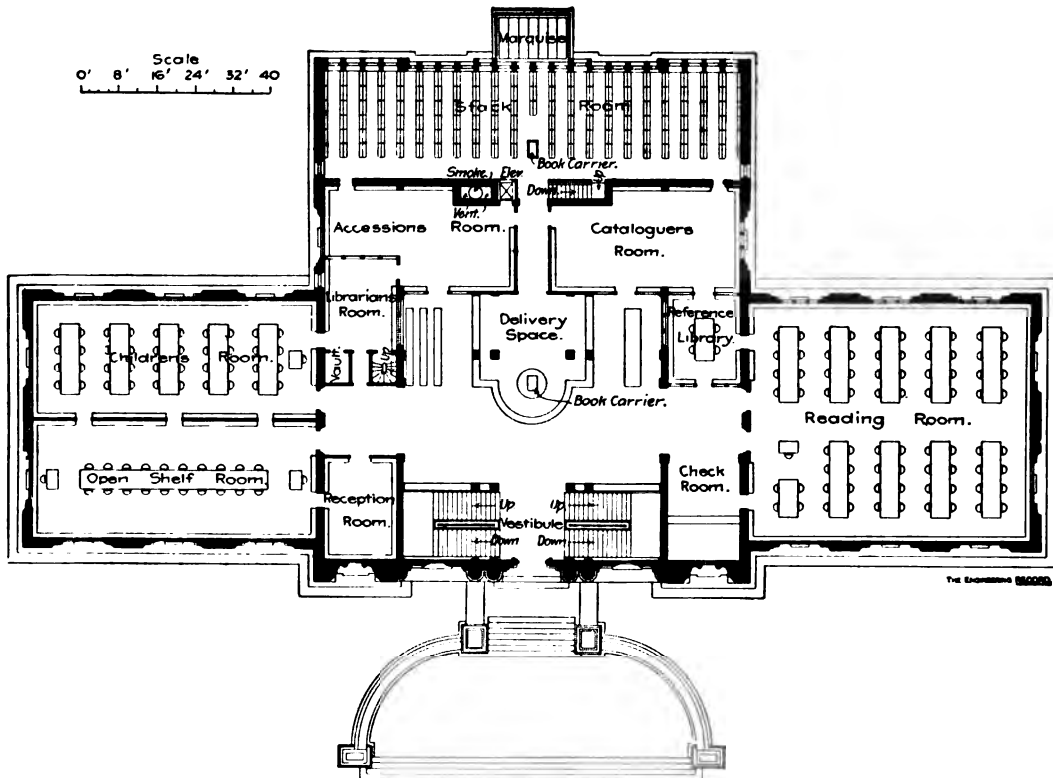
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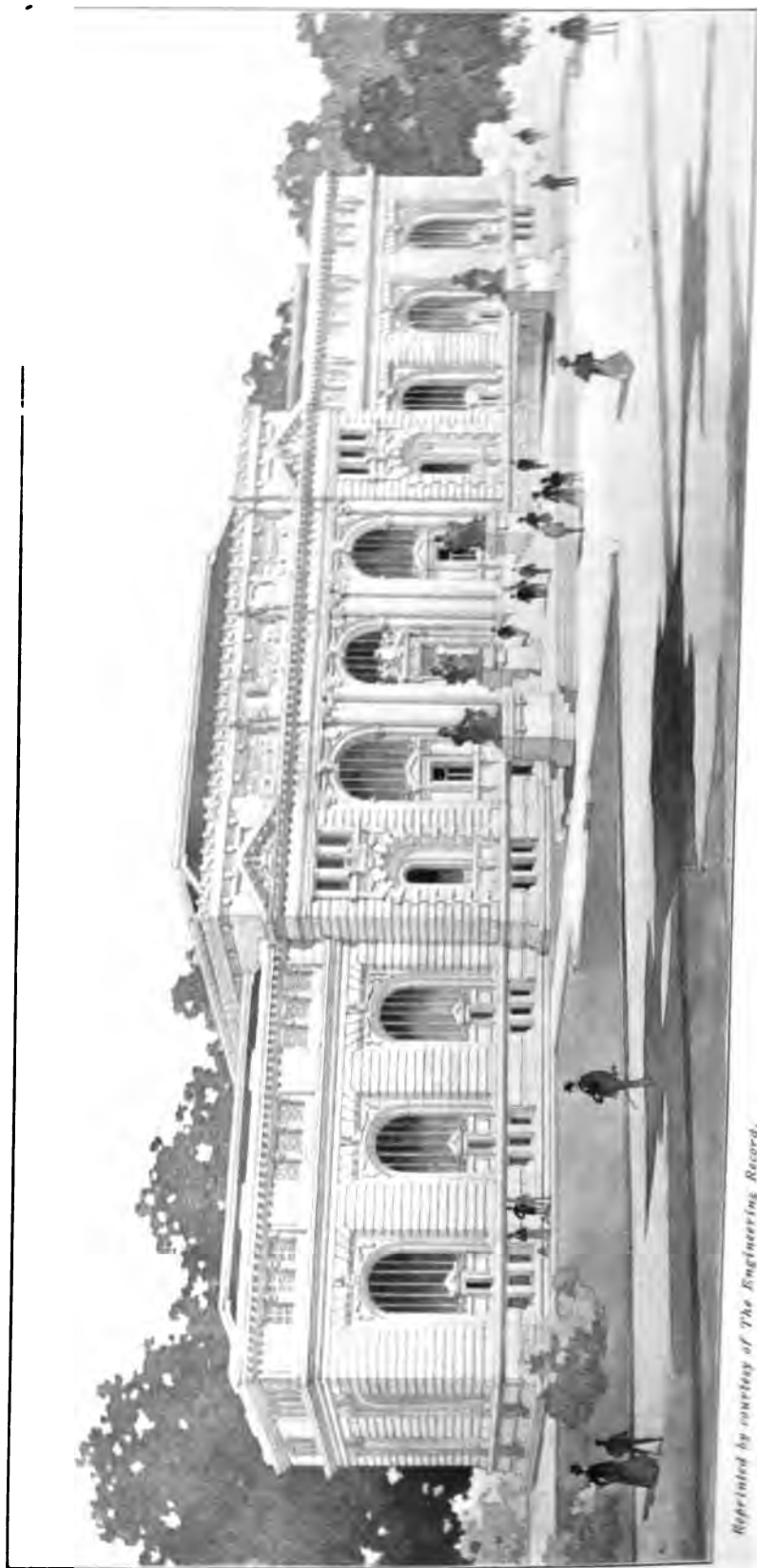
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DECEMBER, 1899

NO. 12

THE wisdom of the President in placing at the disposal of Congress for its service in the national library a professional librarian of the widest experience and the largest ability, now happily confirmed by the action of the Senate, is sufficiently proven by one single act of the new Librarian of Congress—the presentation of the report which so systematically and comprehensively sets forth the status and needs of the library and a plan for its future development. This was, of course, impossible in the days of Mr. Spofford's administration, with a library which had years before outgrown its shell and with a force inadequate even to handle the books physically, and it would scarcely have been possible for a man of the limited experience of Mr. Young, had he lived, to have handled the problem as adequately even with the best of intentions. The library is now magnificently housed in a building fit for its purpose, and worthy of the nation; and it remains for Congress to make sure that the library is now made worthy of its house, by securing for the new librarian the funds and assistance, without which the library cannot be made what it should be. Every year that work on a comprehensive plan is delayed the cost will multiply at compound interest, and there could be no better time for the beginning of a great work of development than the beginning of the new century. Elsewhere is given a too brief summary of the data Mr. Putnam has so strongly and comprehensively put before Congress, and no more argument should be necessary to Congress or to the public than a careful hearing of the facts presented.

CONGRESS will have to deal also with a kindred problem as to the improvements in the publication and distribution of public documents recommended in the report of the Superintendent of Documents. During the recess it is understood that much attention has been given by the Public Printer, through the committee made up from his department, to mooted questions concerning Congressional and execu-

tive documents, and while the proposed bill may not be as comprehensive in character or as complete in detail as might be desired, it should serve as an excellent basis for an act which will bring the whole system of Government publication a long stride nearer to the best practical system. Senator Lodge, as chairman of the Printing Committee, has expressed his willingness and desire to promote such legislation as may be necessary in this direction, and unless Congress is diverted by press of larger business from legislation in this field, the great improvements of recent years in the issue and handling of public documents ought to be "clinched" by amendments to the present code which will strengthen it at weak points and better it wherever improvement is practicable.

THE American Library Association officials recently discovered that there were two Richmonds in the field—the double being a private enterprise at Franklin, Kentucky, using the title the American Library Association, George F. Nason, president, and doing a commercial business in travelling libraries. After some correspondence in which the Rev. Mr. Nason stated that he had never heard of the American Library Association as known to most librarians, but wondered that its officials had never heard of his organization, Mr. Nason agreed to change the name of his enterprise to the American Library Company, under which title it continues its business. This should not be confounded with the H. Parmele Library Company, of Chicago, which has developed a combination of the Mudie idea and the modern travelling library into a private enterprise of considerable proportions, designated by it as the "University of the Travelling Library." It is understood to have built up a business which has been of convenience in many minor places, although it adds a touch of grotesqueness to its work by its grandiose title and by issuing formal diplomas to those who have invested their money and time in its reading courses.

## Communications.

## THE PRATT INSTITUTE PHOTOGRAPH COLLECTION.

LET me call your attention to an error in the report of the secretary of the New York Library Club in the last number of the JOURNAL. He states (referring to my paper on the collection of photographs in our art reference room) that the collection numbers 1600 mounted photographs, the average size of the mount being 11 x 4. This should read 16,000, and the mounting 11 x 14. MARY W. PLUMMER.

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## PATERNALISM—AN APPRECIATION.

THANKS be to Lindsay Swift! Since the Cleveland meeting, when I ventured to suggest that the plumb-line Individualist perhaps has the best of the argument in the free-tax-supported-public-library debate, I have felt lonesome. And, behold! at my very door is one I now dare to call a fellow-champion. And this is a case where, to me, one is nobody, not daring to speak, while two are a crowd. The crowd, moreover, has a spokesman such as my hopeless minority of one entirely lacked. How saving is the grace of humor! It puts things in their proper proportions and true relations. It saps the solemn creed and likewise is good for flatulence. Give thanks for Lindsay Swift!

My Russian friend was not compelled, like his, to have to read that forbidden book in cipher, because, while employed as a carpenter in a Russian state library, he was able to appropriate a copy. But he was not less delighted than was Mr. Swift's friend, when several imprisonments having impaired his health, he came to this country, to find his local library putting that book where any visitor could lay hands upon it.

While on this subject of condemned books, I may as well confess—and so put myself on record in the matter of library censors—that I stayed away from the first session of the A. L. A., at which novels were discussed, because I knew what would be said about certain virile authors, and knew that I should thereby take on a fit of wrath of no use to others and hurtful to myself.

Perhaps—I have said this before, and hardly like to ask you to cumber your pages with it again—perhaps the one thing by which the free library supported by taxes collected by force may be enabled to counteract the inevitable harm of its fundamental paternalism, is its possible universality, breadth, adaptation to every taste and every mood and every shade of theory, belief, and doctrine. The schools—the best of them—are born of the rank and file. They must fit the typical; they must suit the average; they cannot encourage variety, originality, or genius. If not sanctuaries of medievalism, they are the sworn promoters of yesterdayism. The newspapers are in like case. But the public library, let us hope, can be all things to all men. Speed the day when it is such, when the yearning will not be for wilderness of field to be attained by 40 copies of

"Janice Meredith" and a careful exclusion of all "questionable" books; but for breadth of view, to be attained by inclusion of all wholesome records of human thought and action.

I don't like to seem to differ even in a minor point from so good a thing as Mr. Swift's essay; but I do venture to say that if the book committee that sent home "Differences" sent it back because—choice being essential from shortness of funds—they did not wish to buy it until they knew it was something other than one more silly love-story, then they did exactly right. They could wait; perhaps they hadn't seen the *Transcript's* review! If knowledge gained later showed it to be a book with some stuff in it, they could buy it. Few libraries can buy all novels. No library buys all novels. Strong books do not proclaim themselves by cover, title, author, and publisher—as we know to our sorrow. Get the vigorous and meaty novels, by all means; but be sure you get them. Go slow in bowing to the popularity of a day, says the wise bookbuyer.

And the children's room. It is a makeshift after all. But until architects and trustees build sensible, and so spacious, library buildings—which won't be until McKim, Mead & White are dead, and the awful example of the Boston Public Library has ceased to be followed—it will be necessary either to keep the youngest out, or to keep them in part by themselves. And even in the roomiest of buildings the young people could be more easily brought into the pick-and-choose and suit-your-taste relation with books through a library set apart for them than through the vast mass of a large collection. But Mr. Swift is very right indeed when he says that the department for the young should not be too closely picked over. Leave in a good bit of strong meat, by all means; and let the doors to the main library open easily to the youngest.

One thing more, and my "Amen" to Mr. Swift is said. It is to be regretted that he confined his criticisms to the smaller evils of the paternal method in social affairs, and did not mention the greater danger from the general state-socialism method of the free library. But, as he says, he was not unduly serious, because the special points he touched on are not after all of very great concern. And a discussion of the fundamentals of a social philosophy are not considered in place in the LIBRARY JOURNAL. J. C. DANA.

CITY LIBRARY, }  
Springfield, Mass. }

## PARIS LIBRARY EXHIBIT.

I WISH publicly to express the appreciation of the New York State Library for the very prompt and generous co-operation of the libraries asked to contribute material for the American exhibit at Paris. The spirit in which work of this sort is done by American librarians would be one of the best things in our exhibit if it were possible to show it there. We have kept our shipment till the last, so that anything not yet sent on if hurried to Albany the first week in January may yet find its proper place. MELVIL DEWEY.

N. Y. STATE LIBRARY, }  
Albany. }

## A PLAN FOR THE SELECTION OF BOOKS FOR PUBLIC LIBRARIES.

BY DR. ALBERT SCHINZ, *Bryn Mawr College.*

ONE of the most striking features of the present intellectual movement in the United States is, to the European, the Library Feature. I myself have seen and studied the European libraries; I have had part in the direct administration of one of them. It did not take me long to recognize the superiority of American libraries; their organization seemed admirable to me, and in two articles which appeared in the *Bibliothèque Universelle* in August and September of 1898,\* I held them up as examples to be imitated by European libraries.

The library question in Europe as well as in America is the topic of the day. Within the last few years library congresses have been held in Brussels, London, Basle; for over two years Germany has had its library journal, the *Anzeiger für Bibliographie und Bibliothekswissenschaft*; model libraries are planned for Mannheim (Baden) and Eisenach (Sachsen-Weimar-Eisenach); the superb Royal Library of Berlin is about to be taken from the old palace which was its abode for so long a time, and to be transported to Charlottenburg; projects are made for new publications in favor of the movement, such as the "Biobibliographisches Hand- und Adressbuch der deutschen Bibliotheken in Deutschland, Oesterreich und der Schweiz"; Germany is also to be the centre of an international publication to appear before the end of the nineteenth century: *Welt Centralblatt für wissenschaftliches Bibliotheks- und Archivwesen*.

In proportion as the use of books becomes the privilege and right of everybody, the problem of library organization will gain in importance on both sides of the ocean.

The standpoint of American librarians seems opposite to that of European librarians. The latter look upon a library not simply as a heap of volumes put at the disposal of the reader, but above all as a classified and systematic collection of books. The taste and wishes of the public count for nothing in the acquisition of books, just as the taste of the public is

not considered in the purchases made for art museums or collections of antiquities. The European librarian tries to please the scholar, not the promiscuous reader. The American librarian, on the contrary, regards the use of books by the public as being essential. Not only must the library be made easy of access to everybody, but reading-matter must be offered corresponding to the taste and capacity of any and every reader. What is the use of accumulating books which are called for but once in five or ten years, or perhaps never? The library is an institution founded for the good of the general public, and not for that of a few privileged readers.

Upon closer inspection the difference between the two standpoints will be recognized as more apparent than real. It will be seen that, after all, the same principle—that of utility—governs the two. The European does not exclude the utilitarian principle, only he conceives it after his own fashion. He says that the most useful library is that which offers the best and strongest reading-matter. If the reader reads only such books as correspond to his own inferior degree of culture, not only will the library do nothing towards elevating his ideas and enlarging his intellectual horizon, but it will, on the contrary, contribute towards plunging him still more hopelessly into the abyss of mediocrity. The reader comes for the purpose of instructing and perfecting himself; in order to gain this end he must have substantial and strong books, and in choosing such he is in need of turning for help to the officials of the library, who know more about those things than he does. It may even do positive harm to give way to the tastes of an ignorant reader, just as it is harmful to foster foolish likings in a child.

The American has by no means the intention of excluding the scholar and the student from his library. It is his ambition to meet all demands. And for him also the final end of a public library consists in the intellectual development of the reader. "Indeed, one of the highest aims for a public library may be to divert

\* For a summary of these articles see L. J., March, '99, p. 106.

the recreative reading of the community into better channels, to replace trash with light literature of increasingly higher order, and to gradually elevate the ideals and sentiments of the peoples." This is what Mr. Fletcher, the librarian of Amherst College, says in his book on "Public libraries in America." And not a single address is made at the opening of some new library without alluding to the civilizing mission of the new institution. But the point where the Americans differ from the Europeans, and are superior to them, is in recognizing that although a scholarly library is in itself superior to one containing literary nonentities and mediocrities, yet such a library would very probably be beyond the intellectual reach of the public at large. It will not do to put into the hands of an inexperienced reader such books as Kant's "Critique of pure reason," nor Bertrand's "Treatise of integral calculus," or even all the novels by Mrs. Humphry Ward or Henry James. A library which calls itself *public* must consider all grades of readers; and one might even say, without being in the least paradoxical, that the lower classes should be more considered than the others, since they are by far more numerous. It is not to be wondered at that the public libraries of America, resting upon a democratic foundation, should put into practice the last-named principle. Besides, for the great majority of the people frequenting public libraries, reading is the occupation of their leisure hours, to which they can give themselves up only after their day's work is over; it must, therefore, serve as a recreation as well as a means of improvement and culture.

Psychologically all this is perfectly correct.

The American standpoint is unquestionably superior. It is not, however, without danger, and American librarians have not always been able to keep out of that danger. Too great concessions, it seems, are made to the public. One loses sight of the fact that such concessions should be only a means and not the end. A few years ago attention was called to the fact that in the public libraries of England scarcely any books except novels were called for, and that, therefore, those libraries did nothing towards increasing the intellectual culture of the masses. An analogous conclusion may be drawn from American statistics. In a lecture given before the Eliot Society in St. Louis in March, 1895, Mr. Crunden, librarian of the Pub-

lic Library of that city stated that since the previous July 71 copies of "Trilby" had been purchased, and next to that came "Monte Cristo," of which 13 copies were in the library and 68 had been purchased. Continuing down, the list were "Vanity Fair," "The Misérables," "Ben Hur," "David Copperfield," "Ivanhoe," "Uncle Tom's cabin," "Henry Esmond," "Scarlet letter," "Three guardsmen," "Mrs. Holmes's "Darkness and daylight," "Moonstone," "Adam Bede," "Old Curiosity Shop," "Wandering Jew," "Barriers burned away," "Mill on the Floss," "Pendennis," "Saracinesca." Of these the smallest number of copies found necessary were 28 for "Saracinesca."

The criticisms made on this point may be just. It is, however, a problem which cannot be solved theoretically. Perhaps it was necessary to make great concessions to the taste of the readers in the places where these inquiries were made, the intellectual standard of the people demanding it; the conditions are different in every country and every city. But one thing is certain, that the tendency to fashion everything according to the minds of *one* class of readers to the detriment of the other, which, although not so numerous, may also claim some consideration, is too strong and constitutes a lamentable feature in American libraries. Of course there is a difference between a popular and a scientific library, but there is no reason why they should not find an abode under one and the same roof. I have already said, and I know from experience, that American librarians in no wise mean to exclude scholars. The weak point is, therefore, rather a sin of omission than an intentional oversight on the part of the librarians.

When working in the libraries or simply looking into the catalogs in order to see the collection of books in the different departments, I was often surprised to find that one or more books of prime importance were not represented in a large collection. This seemed to me of grave importance, and I set to work systematically to find out whether this was a general evil or whether these deficiencies were only accidental or exceptional. I found the former to be the case. Let me give some examples taken from libraries of the highest rank. In one of them, containing a collection of very important medical works, I looked in vain for the translation of, and classical commentaries on, the works of Hippocrates, in three volumes,

by Littré. In another, which has a good and systematic collection of contemporary German literature, I did not find a single book either by Gottfried Keller, by Conrad Ferdinand Meyer, or by Nietzsche. And in the same library I noticed that of a work of four volumes, by Heinz Tovote, "*Moderne Liebestragödie*," the first and third volumes, "*In Liebesrausch*" and "*Frühlingssturm*," had been purchased, while volumes II. and IV., "*Mutter*" and "*Das Ende vom Liede*," were missing. In Italian literature I found the principal works by Gabriele d'Annunzio, but his "*Il trionfo del morte*" was not there. As for French literature, I saw a list of the works of Beyle (Stendhal), but the writer's masterpiece, "*Rouge et noir*," was not given. Among the books by Théophile Gautier I looked in vain for his novel "*Mademoiselle de Maupin*." The same holds good in all other departments. In psychology, for example, one will find the greater part of Fechner's works, but not his "*Psycho-Physik*," the work which has made him immortal. The works of the French scholar, Charles Richet, would be complete if there were a copy of his very important treatise on "*Psychologie générale*"; and it is surprising that among the books by Th. Ribot, his treatise on the "*Maladies de la mémoire*" is lacking.

This state of affairs can be easily accounted for as far as the works of earlier authors are concerned. European libraries have an advantage over the American, inasmuch as they already existed at the time when the books in their collections appeared. They could buy important books at the moment they came out, while the Americans had to content themselves with purchasing the important works of past epochs; and a standard work which will not escape the notice of a contemporary may easily be overlooked a hundred, fifty, or even twenty years after its publication. Again, it must be remembered that a number of works are bought at second hand, and it is quite natural that such chance acquisitions should not form a systematic collection. Besides, many American libraries owe their existence to bequests of private collections which have been made only in conformity with the tastes and wishes of one single person. The same may be said of the libraries of specialists, who select only such works pertaining to their specialty

as correspond to their personal liking. But when such collections are put into a public library where the tastes of each reader may claim consideration, it is only just to complete them.

All the reasons given, however, do not explain why the same conditions should prevail in libraries which are now being formed, why one should meet with such gaps in new collections. I therefore inquired of several librarians of the most important libraries of the United States how the books for their collections are chosen. The answer was the same everywhere. The librarian selects a number of books to be bought, guided or not by the wishes of the readers, and he generally submits his list to a committee which is either the library board or, though rarely, a special committee.

It seems to me, this system of selecting books does not do justice to the rich and grand American public libraries. In university libraries the same evil exists, but it is less apparent, since the professors in each department decide upon books to be purchased. But when the choice of books is left to the librarian alone, the evil exists, no matter how competent and learned the librarian may be. Let me give some data. For the sake of simplicity I shall not take into consideration collections of earlier writers, nor new editions of earlier works, although as a general thing good libraries should have them.\* I will speak only of books as have recently come from the pen of their authors.

According to Otto Kraus, "*Der Deutsche Büchermarkt*" (published in 1894), there are over 7000 libraries in Germany and more than 20,000 authors. The publishers, more than 2000 in number, accept and offer for sale yearly about 18,000 new works of one or more volumes. Thus a conscientious librarian has 18,000 books from which to make a judicious selection, and which he must either read himself, or at least have knowledge of through some competent review. That makes 1500 books per month, about 360 per week, or about 60 per day. And this is only for German books published in Germany; English, French, Italian, Spanish, Russian, and Swedish works are not included, neither

\*For example, the new edition of the works of Descartes, which is now being published in France; or the new edition of Thackeray, containing biographical notes of importance on the author, by Mrs. Ritchie, his daughter.

all German works, for Austrian and Swiss books are not counted in the number given. Supposing only as many books as are published in Germany were to appear in English — which would be probably below the actual number — as many in French, and as many in all the other languages taken together, then we would have 72,000 volumes a year, 6000 a month, 1440 a week, or 240 a day. If it be claimed that it is unnecessary to read books by standard authors, such as, in Germany, Sudermann, Hauptmann, Kuno Fischer, Fr. Paulsen, and many others whose name is a sufficient guarantee, it must be said that the time gained in this way is amply taken up by providing the means for finding out the contents of all the other books.

From what has gone before it will be seen that, without in the least doubting the competency of a librarian, if the choice of the books to be bought is left wholly to him, that selection will become a matter of mere accident. Yet a careful consideration of the question of selecting books is evidently necessary, not only as regards the value of a library, but it is also due the librarian, already encumbered with work. I am probably not the only one who thinks that it is of more vital importance to bring about a reform in this matter than to give so much emphasis for example, to the relation between libraries and schools, or the transformation of reading-rooms into bureaus of information, or to art exhibitions in libraries and under their patronage.

Let us first consider the lack of certain books of which I have already spoken. The surest remedy for this would be to have competent men go over such collections, to see whether the works of each author are complete or not. But this would be a costly undertaking, and besides, since the work is extensive and tiresome, it might be difficult to persuade scholars, who alone are equal to it, to undertake it. And lastly, it is work that would have to be done separately for each library. I think there are simpler ways of proceeding, that the work can be made more practicable, and that it can be done once for all.

There is a number of lists of select juvenile works for children of all ages. Like lists should be made for all the departments of science and literature. One or more scholars might be charged with preparing such for their

respective departments. But the men chosen should be erudite rather than advancers of new ideas, for those who set forth a theory very easily become its slave, and may be wanting in the necessary impartiality.

First, lists of the general works of each department should be made. Then, a step further, a second list should be made, giving the books treating of the different divisions of the subject. A third, mentioning the works treating of the subdivisions. A fourth would offer monographs on special topics — and so on. For example: one man is charged with making the necessary lists for the department of history of philosophy. His first list will consist of the three or four good, complete histories of philosophy which we have. In his second list he will name the most important works written upon the principal periods in philosophy: ancient, middle age, modern. His third list will contain the books upon the different branches: metaphysics, ethics, logic, psychology, aesthetics, pedagogy. In his fourth list he will give histories of certain particular theories: history of pantheism, history of materialism, history of utilitarianism, history of evolution, history of scepticism, etc. His fifth, the theories expounded by a great thinker, and which have been developed by his followers: history of Platonism, of Epicurianism of Cartesianism, of Kantianism, of Hegelianism, etc. His sixth list will be composed of monographs on the history of discussion of special points, as for example, final causes, moral liberty, association of ideas, etc. Finally, in his seventh list, he will give the names of philosophers and of their works. . . . These seven lists would correspond to seven grades of libraries, classified according to size and income.

Once the lists are made, all subsequent labor is only routine work. If a librarian decides that his library, according to the number of books and income, belongs to the fourth grade, he can hand the first four lists to an employe, who will examine the catalog to see whether all the books mentioned in list I. are represented. If any are missing they will be the first to be purchased, and thus the collection of general works will be complete. The same will be done with the second, third, and fourth lists.

When all the departments contain the complete collections given in the four lists, the library will then consider the lists of the fifth grade,



for it goes without saying that the same lists which are to serve for completing collections may be used also for founding new ones.

It is scarcely necessary to remark that a library is not obliged to bring up all its collections to the same standard; there is nothing to prevent specialization. With the growing tendency of libraries towards collaborating, specialization may have extremely good results. In one town, two libraries, instead of both being of the fourth grade, and thus having the same books, can come to an understanding that one will have the lists one, two, and three complete in works on History or Philosophy, while for Art, some Natural Science or Philology, it will be of the sixth or seventh grade. They will complement each other, if the second has lists one, two, or three complete in works on Art, some Natural Science or Philology, and has attained grade six or seven for History and Philosophy. In this way the inhabitants of the town would in reality possess a library of the sixth or seventh grade.\* It is not at all necessary, finally, that there should be two libraries in the same place in order to make a specialty of some subject. There is no reason why, in an industrial community, a public library should not have an especially well-equipped department on commercial works, or on mechanics; or in a seaport a department on navigation, fisheries, and voyages; or in an agricultural district, on farming and agriculture.

If, in order to bring about a reform such as has been suggested, the most essential thing is to find the proper men, this is nevertheless not the only thing. The persons charged with doing the work must feel that they are perfectly free; they must not be asked, for example, to name 10 works on one subject and 10 on a corresponding one; it is not the object of a catalog to show symmetry in the number of its titles, and if there exist 10 good histories of art it by no means follows that there exist also 10 good histories of political economy, or histories of astronomy. Such mistakes are more frequently made than is generally known. Not to speak of the editors in the different countries who from time to time ask for lists containing the hundred best books, there are such men as Sir John Lubbock, who, influenced by the superstition of numbers, make a list of the hundred

best books, just as if there must necessarily be one hundred best books rather than one hundred and one, or ninety-nine.

Of course a list is always subject to changes. If a good history of English literature be published, it will of course be added to the list pertaining to that subject. Again, opinions often change as to the value of a book; a work unknown to-day will be frequently highly appreciated to-morrow. A recent example of this is Kanzler Friedrich von Müller's book, "*Unterhaltungen mit Goethe*," which received no attention on its publication in 1870, but the new edition of which, in 1898, will probably gain a place by the side of the famous "*Unterhaltungen mit Goethe*," by Eckermann. The same may be said of Max Stirner, a philosopher scarcely known except to lovers of "*curiosa*" in philosophy, through his book, "*Der Einzige und sein Eigentum*." This book, published in 1844, is resuscitated to-day, because some believe there are kindred ideas in it and in the works of the modern, fashionable philosopher, Nietzsche.

After having completed existing collections the point is to find a system which will insure the acquisition of new complete collections. This system will be based on the principle given before. A number of men, having at their disposition *all* available means, would prepare every month lists of seven grades for each department. Of course such lists would very often contain but few names, and often some lists would not be represented at all, especially those of the first grade; there would not be a history of philosophy of the highest rank every month, neither a complete work on geology, nor a work on the principles of architecture. I should like to warn against the tendency of being guided by figures; I mean to say that it is not necessary to spend a certain sum of money every month; if standard books appear they should be bought, even though it be necessary to go beyond the fixed amount; and if no good books are published, there is no need of buying poor ones for the sole purpose of spending the sum allowed.

It will be seen that what I propose is the founding of a new department in the administration of libraries; a department charged with choosing books to be purchased. Although it is not absolutely necessary during the early

\* Something of that kind has been organized in the four important libraries of Chicago.

days of a library, it becomes almost indispensable as soon as the number of books has gone beyond a certain figure.

While all the other departments of library government have to exist separately for each library, the department for selecting books offers the advantage that a single one may do the work for all the libraries in the country. All that is necessary is to print the lists. The department would have its seat in some large library—the Congressional Library, for example, seems very well adapted for the purpose—and every library would pay an annual tax, according to its rank. It would not be difficult to accumulate a sufficient amount of money to found this new department. Supposing that the libraries of the largest cities of America were each one to give the relatively small sum of \$2000, then if we take only New York, Chicago, Philadelphia, St. Louis, Boston, San Francisco, and Washington, we would have the sum of \$14,000. Add to this \$1000 for each library in cities which, in 1890, had over 100,000 inhabitants, and we will arrive at \$34,000. The university libraries would also very likely find it to their advantage to take part in the movement, and to contribute towards bringing it about.

Let me remark that such a catalog would not only be a catalog, but that it would also be the best of reference books upon all the subjects treated in the books of the library. Once the bibliography down to the present day is finished, it will constitute the fundamental part of the work. At the end of every year the lists of the 12 months would be united into an annual list, which would serve as a supplement to the work proper; and at the end of every 10 years the 10 last supplements would be entered in the main catalog. If, at the same time, the numbers of the books were added, these numbers could be given to the books in the library. In this way all the books in the various libraries would have the same number, which would make communication between them much easier.

Besides, the old and puzzling problem of printing slips for library catalogs would be solved in this way.

Finally, this new department, especially the men charged with completing existing collections, might also have charge of a general department of duplicates. In this way the whole of the United States would have the benefit of an institution such as Mr. Melvil Dewey has organized for the state of New York. Thus there would not only be suggestions made for buying books to complete the collections, but a large number of such books would be offered for sale or exchange on easy terms.

I cannot here enter into details. It goes without saying that innumerable questions as to details have not even been touched upon, and that those mentioned would have to be reconsidered and perhaps modified in many ways, if this project be put to execution. Thus I have spoken of different lists corresponding to the different degrees of development of a library; for practical purposes it might be simpler to have but one list with different characters. Thus the names of works contained in list I. might be printed in large capital letters; for list II. we might have letters of the same size, but not capitals; for list III., heavy type, capitals; for list IV., heavy type, small letters; for list V., italics, capitals; for list VI., italics, small letters; for list VII., ordinary print. It is of no importance that there should be just seven degrees of size. Finally, I have not even touched upon the question of the fundamental branches into which a library should be divided; that must be left to those who may be charged with realizing my proposition. If Mr. Dewey's system of classification were accepted more generally and with fewer modifications than is ordinarily done, then his division of books into ten branches would be adopted. However, I should regret to see, as is the case with him, both Geography and History in class nine, while I should not hesitate to unite Sociology and Philosophy under the same number.

If the libraries of America should decide to try this new system of bibliography, and if it were to prove a success, the European libraries would not unlikely join in the movement before long, which would be to the advantage of all.

## ACCESS TO THE SHELVES.\*

BY FREDERICK J. TEGGART, *Librarian Mechanics' Institute Library, San Francisco.*

AFTER 20 years of intermittent discussion the "access" question has come definitely to the front as the issue of the moment. It is not to be wondered at that so much time has been necessary to bring the matter into the professional consciousness, when one thinks that the best German and French authorities are still debating what classes of people may be admitted into the library building.

It is, however, somewhat singular that to-day the arguments for or against this supposed innovation are precisely what they were in 1876. It is protested on the one hand that the institution adopting free access to the shelves would sustain losses from the theft, mutilation, and disarrangement of books, that it would be put to the expense of sustaining a large police force — *un service de surveillance speciale* — and of changing the disposition of the stack so as to provide for the new conditions of administration, thus making new demands on space which even under a "closed" régime it has been found necessary to economize. On the other hand, the advocates of the system simply reply that the losses involved are more than compensated for by the benefit which the public derives from direct contact with the books, and that after all this privilege is nothing more than the right of those who contribute to the support of the library.

These are practical arguments on both sides, even if now somewhat hoary, but I think it is possible to look at the whole subject from a different standpoint, and one which also leads to practical issues. At the beginning it should be remembered that this "access to the shelves" is not something wholly new, springing "full armed from the head of Jove" to inaugurate a new régime. There are numerous libraries in this and other countries in which it has always been the custom. They belong, it is true, to the old order of things — they are mainly subscription and college libraries, institutions which, it is safe to say, have taken many years to grow, and which still preserve some of the characteristics of a fashion old enough to have again become new. To this slow growth I am inclined to attribute the satis-

factory provisions made for the convenience of the readers in such libraries. While a library is small there is little thought of erecting barriers, and the relations between librarian and borrower are on an easy and familiar basis. The increment brought by the years being never sufficiently great at one time to cause a reversal of this policy, the frequenters of the library continue to enjoy the use of their books and their librarian at first hand.

But the generously supported free public libraries of to-day have had a different experience. The average free public library is scarcely 20 years old, some of the largest are not half that age, and yet they are already great institutions, partaking in the character of their management of that impartiality which marks all things "official." The phenomenal growth of the free public library has come through the discovery of the possibilities of municipal taxation, and the opportunity thus given the librarian to accumulate a vast number of books in an unprecedentedly short space of time. It is easy to see how these conditions should have precluded the satisfactory adjustment of the relation between demand and supply. The librarian's difficulty has been in securing the proper circulation of the books which he has provided, the reader's in obtaining the books he wants with the least amount of trouble to himself. Now after 20 years the librarian is still confronted with the problem of informing his *clientèle* of the books which the library possesses. He is still struggling to increase his circulation in the ratio of the increase of his books, complicating this, moreover, by a manifest desire to restrict the reading of fiction.

To effect this end many expedients have been suggested and tried, catalogs of all sorts — printed and manuscript — have been devised and revised. For years we have been combating the neglect of what we consider the more educative portion of our libraries by means of bulletins, reference lists, and "evaluations" of literature. It is in fact 60 years since the Mercantile Library Association of New York City invited Chancellor Kent to prepare an annotated catalog of desirable reading-matter for the benefit of its members; such things have

\* Read before the California Library Association, Sept. 8, 1899.

now become common, but the great public goes on, uncaught by the lure, to read according to its own taste and not that of the educating librarian. It is true that the many inducements in annotated lists, "extra books" and so forth, offered to the public to encourage good reading, have had an effect on the circulation in libraries, but, unfortunately, an effect wholly inadequate when compared to the energy and expenditure absorbed in producing it. To speak pointedly, it is very evident that our previous efforts for developing "good reading" and a large circulation have not been conspicuously successful. Nothing shows this more clearly than the avidity with which the "access" idea is being taken up, this certainly, we seem to argue, being an available means towards the desired end. Here I would say as a matter of personal experience that while it is probable the opening of the shelves will tend to produce an effect similar to that of bulletins and reference lists, there is but little reason to believe that the tendency will be to any greater extent towards our standard of "better reading" than in the case of former innovations.

When we have taken these things into consideration there comes the disconcerting suggestion that perhaps after all we are attempting to cure certain symptoms without having discovered whence they originate. May it not be, for instance, that the librarian of the large and rapidly growing library has failed to realize sufficiently, and therefore to take adequately into account, the differences which exist in the readers for whom he is called upon to provide books? Is it not possible that he has been endeavoring to influence the proportions of his circulation before he has faced the question, What do the many actually and persistently read, and what do the few read?

There are in fact, in every community, two classes of persons who make use of the public library; for purposes of discussion these may be called the "general reader" class, and the "student" class.

It is not contended here that there is any great gulf fixed between these; many books are used in common by both, many persons according to their impulses belong to one or the other class at different moments. Yet the fact remains that certain groups of literature are constantly in demand in our libraries, whereas still other and larger groups are accumulated and preserved in full light of the knowledge that they will be but rarely called for. Without

endeavoring to designate these groups with any great degree of accuracy, it may be said that the former includes "imaginative" literature, especially that which is modern and recent, and writings which describe in general terms and with sympathetic appeal that which concerns itself with human life and experience, while the latter class includes more especially the record of human experience set forth as a means towards the gaining of that which we philosophically designate "truth."

The point at issue is this — are we to go on treating these classes of readers as a homogeneous unit and these groups of literature as essentially fitted for indiscriminate use, or as being of necessity different, having different aims and serving different purposes?

Consider for a moment the two extremes of the library world. On the one hand are very numerous small libraries restricted to such books as are of use only for general circulation, such as are of undoubted interest to the "general reader" class; on the other are the largest libraries, situated in great centres of population, providing books which are used mainly for "reference," and selected not from the standpoint of probable high circulation, but of their relative importance to the few students who will require at infrequent intervals to consult them.

If, in addition, the gamut between these be run through, it will become apparent that the books provided for the "general reader," those which circulate most freely, increase with the library's growth in a much smaller ratio than the books designed for the use of the "student" class, or, in other words, that there is a proportional limit to the quantity of books sufficient to supply the "general reader" element of society, but that there is practically no limit to the quantity necessary for the "student" class.

If, then, this obvious truism be granted it remains to be questioned how can the best results be obtained for supplying the demand on the one hand and upon the other.

The answer is not far to seek as regards what I have designated as the "general reader" class; it comes ready furnished by the experience which we have had with the "branch" library.

This institution, strictly modern in its full development, is characterized by three things: the comparatively small number of volumes necessary to provide for a large circulation, the popular character of these volumes, and the

free access to the books accorded to the public. It is apparent that if the general reader was to be satisfied only by the provision of hundreds of thousands of books he would resort to the central library even at an inconvenience. But experience shows that just the reverse is the case, the tendency is for borrowers to prefer the "branches." According to the report of the Boston Public Library for 1897-98, the branches, with one-fourth of the number of books, supplied three-fourths of the entire home circulation, the books drawn from the central library through the branches being an entirely inconsiderable number. (Entire circulation, approximately 1,200,000, branches 811,000; entire number books 699,000, branches 171,000.) The same state of affairs is rapidly developing in all our great cities.

Without going further into detail it is sufficient to assign the reasons for this: greater convenience of the branches to the homes; greater ease in selecting books from a restricted number of volumes chosen for the special reason of their popularity; free access to the shelves.

This development, far from minimizing the usefulness of the central library with its great store of books, has but shown more clearly the place which such a collection properly fills. The number of its books can never become too great for the use of the scholars who require a well-provided reference library in the pursuit of their studies.

Viewing the two greatest public libraries of this country it may be ventured as a speculation that to perfect their organization the central library of the Boston Public Library system should be made a great reference library for scholars, with a generous but subsidiary circulation department organized on the lines of a "branch" library; and that, to round out its usefulness, a similar circulation department should be added to the New York Public Library.

I cannot but think that in the long run it will be found that the slow-moving Englishman has shown the better judgment in dividing his public library into two parts: "lending" and "reference" libraries, not making the latter, as we do, a mere and almost insignificant department, but a second library at least equal in size to the former, though of a different character.

With a reorganization which would permit of our having in every large public library two

divisions such as I have pointed out, there can be no doubt the general reader will find a great impetus to read in being allowed free access to a well chosen and carefully restricted circulating department, and the student would also receive encouragement in finding that the permanent portion of the library was devoted to his use and developed accordingly.

A proportion of exactly the same class which finds the branch library to its liking uses the central library for the same purpose as others use the branches, and suitable and similar provision should be made for the accommodation of this proportion. It is manifest that the "general reader" desirous of procuring "something to read" to take home, if turned loose amidst a stack containing 200,000 volumes, will be at a loss where to turn to find his desideratum. It is a fact that 99 people out of a hundred will discover "just what they want" more readily and with less embarrassment among a thousand selected volumes than out of 100,000 books in the stack. To such as these a catalog is at best a difficult piece of mechanism — even a dictionary catalog. The bulletin and reference list is more easily utilized, principally because it is less cumbersome; it is short and, if necessary, can be read through.

With the student, however, the case is very different; he may, even frequently, desire to examine large groups of books *in situ*, and there is little reason for denying him the privilege. But his reliance will be upon the bibliography and well-constructed catalogs. His object is the mastery of a subject and not merely to secure a book for the beguiling of an idle hour. His great desire will be to find books when he needs them.

Under such a system as that which has been suggested here all the advantages would be secured which are claimed for indiscriminate free access, and the disadvantages which are argued against it would practically be abrogated. The losses would be reduced to a minimum, there would be no need for a corps of detectives, and but little extra demand would be made on floor space.

There can, I think, be no doubt that a revision is required of the provision made for the use of the library by the public. It remains to effect that revision in a manner which will have some degree of permanency, and towards securing that result the present is an attempted contribution.

## FICTION IN PUBLIC LIBRARIES.

*J. C. Dana in Springfield Republican.*

TO-DAY it's "Janice Meredith"; yesterday it was "Richard Carvel"; the day before, "David Harum"; last week, "The choir invisible"; last month, "When knighthood was in flower"—and before that is ancient history, and stands untouched and dusty on the shelf. To-morrow it's "Via crucis" and "The ship of stars," and another "Great American novel" and several "Most important books of the year," and 10 score of novels that "every one is reading." And in the swarm with these literary comets of surpassing brilliancy are a few thousand more or less of "most admirable," "excellent," "charming," "entertaining," "cheering," falling stars of stories for old and young. The librarian sees them come. No one, unless it be the clerk at the notion and book counter of the department store, has a better view of them than he. And, alas! he sees them go. They are not even comets of a season. And, alas! again they go; but they fail to vanish utterly with a flash and a bit of dust. They are eclipsed, but not destroyed; they pass, yet stay. They line up on his shelves; they gather dust; their titles fill his catalogs; they reproach him by their very presence for his folly in letting them in and his multiple folly in admitting them in pairs, in triplets, and in gangs. Tens of thousands of copies of that peerless, deathless, priceless old classic, "Beside the bonnie brier bush," are on the shelves of public libraries in this country to-day, returning no interest and speaking loudly of the instability of the public taste, of the fallibility of reviews, of the fugacity of fame, and of the advertising cleverness of the modern publisher.

And what, then, should the librarian do? He looks at his dead stock, 25 to 30 per cent. of his books in novels—mostly poor, and no longer grabbed for even if good; at the 80 per cent. fiction in his annual report of circulation; at the announcements of books of more permanent value he knows his library should have and can't afford; at the thinness and vapidness of most of the best of the fiction output; at the lack of results from most novel-reading; at his obligations as custodian of public morals—for he is expected to be censorious of wickedness, even though often entreated to be tolerant of weakness; and he says to himself, "I will be stern and firm and critical, and, putting my book funds into other things, will buy for this library only the best novels, and few of them." Then he considers further, and finds it said that the library is the public's, and who, then, is the librarian that he should do other than the things the "constant reader," who is part of the public, and most of the vox populi may approve? And "constant reader" is more constant in her demand for novels than a score of students. She (and also he) asks for the latest novels; should she not have them?

He finds that it is also said that the library should entertain as well as elevate and interest;

that the people, the average people, the industrious people of modest income—girls, women, men, and boys—can and do get recreation, pleasure, and perhaps some inspiration from the stories the critic with his wider view calls cheap and thin and silly. And should not the library, the people's library, supply the books the great mass of its borrowers—the people—desire for their harmless pleasure, as well as those asked for by the cultivated few for their enlightenment?

And he further finds it said that the public library is established and maintained to help the ignorant to become wise as well as to give the wise opportunity to add to their wisdom; and that the ignorant, the non-literary, will not come to the library and use it, and become attached to it, and get into the habit of appealing to it for guidance and enrichment of life as well as pleasure, unless they find in it the books suited to their taste; that third-rate novels are the proper side-shows, barkers, and lemonade-and-peanuts of the great circus of literature proper; that without the attraction of much of the latest fiction—poor and poorest alike—the library will not get within the radius of its influence the people it is perhaps chiefly designed to affect; that a student's library is a proper thing; but a people's free, public library is another and—in part, at least—a very different thing, and also has its place. And, furthermore, the librarian finds that his colleagues are convinced by these sayings that it is their duty to supply the second- and third-rate story-book, and supply them they do—generally without protest, often with zeal. Precept and example, then, lead to much poor fiction in free public libraries.

And yet the story is not all told. The librarian recalls his first stern resolve, and examines the customs and sayings of his fellows. First, the argument from precedent. A well-established custom may have no merit save age, and age in educational matters—and a library is chiefly an educational institution—always implies opportunity for improvement.

Then there is the argument from the unattractiveness of good literature. What wise and experienced men call good in letters, they say, is not within the people's grasp. The people must be fetched with the cheap and silly. And the librarian replies, that for the poorest, dulllest, and narrowest mind, the best in literature is none too good; that from the vast storehouse of printed things that make up our literary heritage can be brought forth writings, good, high, true—true in the artistic sense—and welcome to the unlearned. If that is not so, then much of our boasting of our literary possessions is vain. And, he asks, do the librarians wish to disclose to their clients that they are buying poor books in order to bring the library down to their level?

As to the argument from entertainment, it finds its answer also in the wealth of our literature, an answer complete and conclusive. Lightness, brilliancy, humor, wit, fun, incident, adventure—does any one venture to assert that

the veriest beginner in reading, old or young, must go out of the realm of good literature, into the domain of the weak and silly, to find these things? Surely not. And again our librarian asks if the common people care to have their libraries wittingly made purveyors of silly stuff on the plea that only by so doing can the taste of the common people be met? The museum of science is attractive to a part of the common people — of course, not to all, for not all care for science — without admitting fat ladies or living skeletons to its collections. The picture gallery does not need a special show of lurid daubs near its entrance to entice the common people to visit the Le Rolle upstairs.

But the public library is the public's library, and the librarian is the public's servant, and he must buy what they ask him to buy. This is the chief weapon in the hands of the third-rate fiction advocates. But its edge is turned at once when one considers that the library does not buy the things the public ask for. Some want the *New York Weekly*, but there the most complaisant of librarians has courage and audacity to draw the line. And the weapon vanishes entirely when one considers that the librarian does in fact buy what many of the people ask for when he buys only the best of fiction, and that in no event does he buy all that all the public ask for.

The librarian has, standing by his first sternly critical mood, faced opposing arguments. He considers the many libraries in this country, of moderate size, which offer their readers a selection of 5000, 6000, or even 9000 different titles in novels, and still he remains firm in his conviction that of such a wide selection two-thirds or more must be weak, silly, and third-rate, for there are not 2000 good novels for old and young yet put into print. He believes that the claims of literature, of education, and of sound economy are all on the side of the conservative course in novel buying.

#### TRADES UNIONISM IN LIBRARY WORK.

AN interesting controversy has been waged during the past year in the ranks of the English library associations regarding qualifications for admission to the classes in bibliography and library training, conducted under the auspices of the Library Association of the United Kingdom and its affiliations. On the one side it was felt that these classes should be open to all *bona fide* students; on the other, it was strongly urged that the privilege of attendance should be open only to persons actually engaged in work as library assistants. The "open door" policy is that favored by the council of the L. A. U. K., which in its annual report presented at the Manchester meeting referred to the classes established by the Northwestern branch, in Manchester, where an opposite policy had been adopted, and urged upon the committee of that branch "the advisability of reconsidering the determination which excludes from its classes

those not actually engaged in literary work." It was pointed out that all the classes of the association should be conducted on uniform lines, and that a policy should be adopted, "which, if it errs at all, errs on the side of liberality." This recommendation was withdrawn after animated objections and discussion, and it is understood that the Northwestern branch adheres to its policy of exclusion.

In a letter to the *Library Association Record*, George T. Shaw, of the Liverpool Athenæum, makes a few pertinent suggestions. He says: "I have no wish to slander library assistants, and my work in connection with the summer school of the Northwestern branch shows that I am doing practical work on their behalf, but the fact remains that while many assistants are endeavoring to avail themselves of every means at their disposal to improve their education, the majority are deplorably ignorant, and desire *exclusiveness* or *protection* in order to increase the opportunities for which they are too ignorant to qualify in any other way than by length of service.

"So far there have been only two centres of educational work for library assistants, viz., London and Lancashire. In London *outsiders* are admitted to these classes, but on payment of higher fees. In Lancashire they are excluded.

"After careful consideration, though great is my desire to see this policy of exclusion continued and extended, my experience as secretary of the Northern summer school forces me to admit that a general policy of exclusion of *outsiders* can only be adopted when the attitude of the *insiders* towards the educational classes can be regarded as satisfactory. No one who has had anything to do with the organization of these classes can say that the present attitude is entirely satisfactory. In London the difference between the number of library assistants who attended the 1898 classes and the number who sat for examinations was most marked. In two out of the four courses of lectures the honors were carried off by two outsiders. . . . This work will go on, and in the north we are determined to continue for the present the policy of excluding outsiders, but it remains for the library assistants throughout the country to show that their intention to avail themselves of the opportunities thus offered is strong enough to justify attendance at the classes and the schools being limited to them."

The *Library Assistant* has strongly opposed "the open door," and its editor, Mr. Dyer, in the November number of the *Library World* urges that preliminary library experience be made an absolute condition of admission to classes in the future, on the ground that "if once it is granted that the trained librarian is better fitted than the untrained, the additional value of practical training must be admitted." He adds: "The council [of the L. A. U. K.] goes out of its way to extend an educational ægis over the untrained men, and seeks to offer a haven to all the failures of the profession, if only they will pay fees to be taught."

## REPORT OF THE LIBRARIAN OF CONGRESS.

THE report of the Librarian of Congress for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1899, was made public Dec. 4, when it was submitted to Congress. An advance summary of the report gives the following statistics: Appropriations and receipts \$191,125; expenses \$184,824.39. In the copyright department the fees earned amounted to \$58,267; expenses, \$40,272.38. The expenditure for salaries fell short of the appropriation by the sum of \$6268.86, owing to deductions for absence and to unavoidable delay in filling vacancies, caused by the change in administration and the removal to the new building. It is asked that the unexpended balance be continued in the control of the library. For maintenance of building and grounds \$106,395 was expended.

The accessions to the library since Sept. 30, 1898, are stated as 24,962, making the total books and pamphlets at the close of the fiscal year 957,056. These figures do not include a considerable amount of material not accessioned but set aside for exchange.

The work of the various departments is reviewed. To the manuscript department 1866 additions have been made, a number of important items having been acquired through the visit made by the superintendent of the department to Porto Rico in January last. This visit resulted "in the transfer to the Library of Congress of practically the entire accumulation of archives in the palace there of the governor-general. The transfer was effected through a recommendation made to the governor-general, forwarded to the War Department and favorably acted upon." The number of manuscripts in the department is about 26,500, of which only 7340 have been cataloged and only 1604 have been calendared. The department of maps and charts contains about 52,181 items; in the music department there are 277,465 compositions, of which 23,980 represent accessions of the 18 months 1898-1899; and in the print collection there are 70,823 items, of which 10,915 are accessions of the past fiscal year.

The reading-room for the blind, open each day from 9 to 4, has been visited by 31,000 persons, of whom 7025 have attended the series of afternoon readings and music recitals held from October to July. "Of this large number only 885 were 'unseeing.' But the importance of the department in a library of this type lies not so much in the persons directly reached as in the demonstration that it affords. By the material which it gets together, by the character of service which it performs, it offers example and suggestion which may be applied locally in innumerable places to a widespread constituency."

In the main reading-room, open 306 days, there were 121,270 readers, of whom 49,153 used the library between 4 and 10 p.m. The number of books and periodicals supplied was 297,662, the average daily issue being

1090. There were 20,650 v. issued for home use.

The catalog department, with an inadequate force even for current work, has handled a large amount of material; 31,885 v. and 5069 pamphlets have been classified and cataloged. In addition to the insertion of cards into the several catalogs, "the miscellaneous work of the department has comprised many items not included in the above, as the mounting on cards of (circa) 60,000 of the titles of the accessions to the British Museum. The reclassification of the existing collection has progressed to the extent of 6372 books and pamphlets. The work has now covered one of the 44 'chapters' of the library. But at this point it has come to a standstill, and can be proceeded with only in case the force be enlarged. A special bibliography is now ready for the press, being a 'list of books and of articles in periodicals, relating to the Nicaragua and other interoceanic canal and railway routes, including the Suez,' compiled by Hugh A. Morrison, Jr., of the reading-room force."

Estimates upon which to base the library appropriations for the year beginning July 1, 1900, were required to be submitted by the Librarian of Congress prior to Oct. 1, 1899. These estimates Mr. Putnam appends to his report, accompanying them by a full and most interesting "explanation," in which the details of the library service are analyzed, its shortcomings noted, and the need of the increased force required is clearly set forth. The estimates made are not considered permanently comprehensive, but are meant only "to round out the present organization of the library so as to enable it to cope with the work whose necessity is immediate and must be indisputable." They call for a force of 229 persons, instead of the 134 now provided for, the chief increase being made in the catalog, order, and copyright departments, and actually, though not apparently, in the reading-room, where the present staff of 56 has been for some time reduced to 40, owing to members being detailed to work in other departments.

The immense amount of arrearage work to be disposed of is hardly to be estimated, ranging as it does from the catalog department with its "700,000 books and 200,000 pamphlets to be reclassified, assigned new numbers, shelf-listed" and recorded in partial or complete catalog entry, to the copyright department, where there are "eight months' arrears of 50-cent entries to be made up, deposits amounting to nearly 200,000 articles to be arranged in sequence and shelved, deposits to an amount not computable to be credited and indexed"; and no attempt has been made to meet more than a fraction of the arrears in four departments only — the catalog, document, periodical, and copyright. Provision is also made for the establishment of a mail and supply department, an order department, a binding department, a department of bibliography, and a department of documents and exchanges. The estimates made reach a total of \$233,920 for salaries,



\$61,180 for books, periodicals, etc., and \$6685 for contingent expenses, including the purchase of an automobile mail and delivery wagon. This does not include the appropriations for care and maintenance of building, fuel, furniture, etc.

The work to be carried through in the various departments under the new plans submitted is briefly outlined. Of the catalog department Mr. Putnam says:

"The present classification of the library is but a slight expansion of that adopted by Thomas Jefferson in 1815 for his library of 6700 volumes. It is meagre, rigid, and inelastic, and unsuited to a library of a million volumes. The entire library must be reclassified.

"An indispensable record in a library is a list of the books composing each class, as they stand on the shelves, and identifying them by their accession numbers. This is called the 'shelf list.' It is the basis of every inventory. There is no shelf list of the 850,000 books and 250,000 pamphlets in the Library of Congress. One must be written.

"The minimum catalog for a library of this size is a card catalog which will tell: 1, What books the library has by a given author; 2, What books the library has upon a given subject.

"There should at least be one copy of such a catalog for the use of the public as well as the one (in the catalog-room) for official use; and in the case of the Library of Congress there should be a third for the use of Congress at the Capitol.

"The only general catalog which the library now possesses is a single copy of one by authors. It is kept behind the counter, and is for official use only. It is for the most part in manuscript, and on cards of a size that cannot be continued.

"The library has no general subject catalog whatever, and no general catalog whatever accessible to the public or which may be placed at the Capitol.

"The work of the catalog-shelf department is:

"1. To classify, locate, enter on shelf lists, number, and catalog the current accessions to the library in the form of books and pamphlets. During the year beginning July 1, 1900, these are likely to exceed 40,000 volumes.

"2. To reclassify, relocate, enter on shelf lists and renumber the entire existing collection of books and pamphlets.

"3. To catalog under both author and subject 200,000 pamphlets not yet cataloged at all.

"4. To make a 'dictionary' catalog of the entire existing collection of books. New author cards must be written in revision of these present author cards, but fuller in analysis. And subject cards must be written for which there is no present basis.

"5. All of the above cards must be seen through the press."

It is estimated that to accomplish this work in five years would require a force of 91 persons; provision is made, however, for but 46 persons, of whom six are boys, who will be able to handle current accessions, and perhaps

40,000 of the 800,000 volumes in arrears. It is added:

"If the library is to render full service to this generation, obviously, this great arrear should be made up within a few years. A proper classification, exact shelf list, and thorough catalog are equally necessary as a basis for future growth, and with every year the difficulty of the work will increase with the growing mass."

The objects of the proposed department of bibliography would be "(1) to aid in the collection of bibliographic material; (2) to compile special bibliographies of material in this library; (3) to compile catalogs for use here of important material in other libraries of the District of Columbia; (4) to attend to inquiries involving special research not possible for the attendants in the reading-room busy with the wants of the general public; (5) to answer inquiries by mail involving bibliographic questions or special research, developing in this way into a Bureau of Information for inquirers at a distance; (6) to edit and supervise through the press all of the publications of the library; (7) to aid in such general bibliographic undertakings as may justly claim the co-operation of the Library of Congress.

"Among the publications that should be undertaken immediately are—

"(1) A list of current serials taken by the libraries of the District of Columbia.

"(2) A check list of *all files* of periodicals in the libraries of the District.

"(3) A check list of the files of American newspapers in the Library of Congress.

"(4) A check list of United States and of foreign documents in the Library of Congress.

"(5) A check list of bibliographies in the Library of Congress."

In the copyright department the present force of 30 persons is inadequate to handle even the current business of the office, and an addition of nine is provided for. During the past year six persons have been diverted from other work to aid in the copyright office, and "nearly every regular employe of the office has, without extra compensation, worked overtime. The total of overtime of that year (excluding the personal overtime of the register, whose working day rarely ends until 10 o'clock) has amounted to 9789 hours—the equivalent of the services of seven and a half clerks for an entire working year." The great mass of current work and of arrearage is noted and the importance of its systematic organization is emphasized. "Any item of it may be called for on any day as evidence in litigation. The validity of important property rights may depend upon its prompt production, and the duty of the department to the persons in interest requires that at the earliest possible moment it be arranged and shelved in orderly sequence."

The importance of the estimates submitted is apparent, and they give excellent opportunity of judging the remarkable amount of work that has been accomplished under great difficulties, and the pressing need of better conditions if the library is to attain its proper position as the National Library.

## REPORT OF THE SUPERINTENDENT OF DOCUMENTS.

From advance pages of the forthcoming report of the Superintendent of Documents the work of that office for the year ending June 30, 1899, is thus summarized: Documents received, 699,196; documents distributed, 687,728; documents sold, 26,808. "1,413,732 documents were handled in and out during the fiscal year, a number equal to the first three years business of the office." Much work was done in the distribution of documents to miscellaneous libraries to complete sets, 196,983 such documents having been sent out. These have proved of great value to the libraries, many of them having long been out of print. They have been mainly obtained from the various executive departments, which, in accord with the act of 1895, transferred their accumulations—sometimes a century old—of documents not required for official use to the Document Office for distribution; many duplicates are also sent to the office by libraries.

The distribution of the compilation of "Messages and papers of the presidents" is announced as practically completed, more than 300,000 volumes having been delivered. In the quantity of documents sold there is evident an increase of 25%, and in receipts from such sales there is an increase of 65%. Two price lists have been published, in October, 1898, and May, 1899, the latter being considered "the most complete price list of documents for sale that has ever been issued."

The publications of the office during the year comprised one document catalog, 12 monthly catalogs, two price lists, the bibliography of "Reports of explorations," by Miss Hasse, and a bibliography of documents relating to inter-oceanic communication across the Isthmus of Panama. It is proposed as soon as practicable to issue the monthly catalog in cumulative form. It is also desired to publish the document catalog biennially instead of for each session of Congress, this provision being included in the bill to be presented to the present Congress.

Work on the new check list of documents has gone forward, and "it now seems probable that it can be finished and published next year." The plan of the check list is thus outlined:

"Documents bearing a Congressional number are classed as 'Congressional,' and all others are classed as 'Departmental,' and are grouped under four headings—

1. Papers of the Revolutionary period.
2. Proceedings and Debates in Congress.
3. The Congressional series.
4. The Departmental series.

"In the first group will be included many valuable papers not public documents, but which have been either purchased or adopted by the government as official.

"Group two will contain a list of the proceedings and debates in Congress from the first to the 55th Congress, inclusive, arranged by Congresses and sessions, instead of by volume numbers, for the reason that the volumes com-

posing the set are not uniform on account of a difference in the pagination of the daily edition and those bound at the end of the session for distribution to libraries.

"The third group will contain a list, as nearly complete as possible, of the Congressional documents from the first to the 55th Congress, inclusive. The scheme devised by Dr. John G. Ames, of serial numbers for the documents of the 15th to the 53d Congress, has been adopted and continued. It having been found impracticable to classify the unnumbered documents of the first to the 14th Congress by serial numbers, they will be introduced immediately preceding the documents of the 15th Congress under 'O numbers.'

"Group four will contain a list of the documents known as the 'Departmental' series, many of which also appear in the Congressional series. The latter will be indicated so that duplication under different titles may be easily ascertained.

"A new classification has been devised by Mr. W. L. Post, of this office, for the Departmental series which I think most excellent, and one that will meet all requirements. By the use of this classification reference to the Departmental series is made easy, and may be applied as serial numbers are to Congressional documents."

The check list will also include a "cyclopedic index," listing all Congressional documents by subject, title, and author.

The amendments proposed to the present law, as formulated by the special committee appointed by the Public Printer, are summarized as follows:

"SEC. 1. That Senate documents, bills, resolutions, and reports, and House documents, bills, resolutions, and reports, shall be numbered consecutively through a Congress.

"SEC. 2. That no document shall be given a Congressional number except such as emanate from Congress, or are based upon reports from the Executive Departments, bureaus, offices or commissions, in response to specific calls of Congress or either House thereof for information.

"SEC. 3. Provides for the printing, binding, and distribution of Congressional documents to conform to the change provided for by section 2.

"SEC. 4. Provides for the printing, binding, and distribution of documents not bearing a Congressional number; that the binding of such documents for distribution to designated depositories shall be in first grades of cloth; that a distinctive color shall be assigned to the documents of each of the Executive Departments, etc.

"SEC. 5. That the color and lettering of the binding and the phraseology and typography of the title-page of every document shall be the same on and in all copies of such document, except reprints, which may show the addition of new matter.

"SEC. 6. That the publications of the Executive Departments, bureaus, offices and commissions, shall be supplied to the designated de-

positories unless the same shall be printed for official use only.

"Sec. 7. That extra editions, not to exceed 500 copies of any document, may be printed for sale upon certificate of the Superintendent of Documents that the supply has been exhausted and that a certain number of copies have been subscribed and paid for.

"Sec. 8. That the document catalog (comprehensive index) shall be published biennially, and shall include entries of all documents ordered printed through an entire Congress, and of the Departmental series, those published during two fiscal years, beginning with the documents of the 55th Congress.

"Sec. 9. That as many additional copies of the monthly catalog of public documents shall be printed as may be required to supply those who shall subscribe therefor at .... per annum."

#### LIBRARIANS IN THE TWELFTH CENSUS.

As the result of a correspondence between the president of the American Library Association and the chief statistician of the Twelfth Census the insertions here indicated by italics have been made in the printed "Instructions to enumerators," to be issued for census purposes: "Return separately chemists, assayers, metallurgists, *librarians* and other *literary* and scientific persons." This provides for the inclusion of librarians in the regular list of occupations and professions, and should furnish library statistics of interest and usefulness. The indication of profession is left to the person enumerated, according to the "Instructions," as follows:

"*Question 16: Profession, Trade, or Occupation.*—A person's occupation is the profession, trade, or branch of work upon which he chiefly depends for support, and in which he would ordinarily be engaged during the larger part of the year. You are under no obligation to give a person's occupation just as he expresses it. If he cannot tell intelligently what he is, find out what he does and describe his occupation accordingly."

At the last meeting of the executive board of the A. L. A., while this correspondence with the chief statistician was in progress, the question of defining persons who should be accounted librarians was discussed and the following definition agreed upon: "Persons who give gratuitously or for remuneration the major part of their time to library work, not including care of library buildings." The Census Office, however, finally ruled that this limitation "could not be applied without some modification of census methods; it may be difficult to exclude from the class of librarians those working about a library, but not strictly at library work. Our method, in brief, is to ask of every person over 10, engaged in gainful occupation, What is the work on which you chiefly depend for support? to have the enumerator write down his answer, and then at the office we classify the millions of returns as best we can."

It was therefore decided simply to include librarians in the regular list of occupations and professions, without limitations.

#### CONFERENCE OF ITALIAN LIBRARIANS.

THE third annual meeting of the Società Bibliografica Italiana was held in Genoa, Nov. 3-6, 1899. There was a large attendance, including representatives from many scientific and literary societies. The sessions were held in the handsome and spacious Teatre Carlo Felice, by concession of the city council of Genoa, where the first session was opened with the usual address of welcome and of thanks to the civic authorities. Prof. Alessandro D'Ancona was elected president of the conference, and Giuseppe Fumagalli and Antonio Manno were chosen vice-presidents. In the temporary absence of Prof. D'Ancona, Cav. Fumagalli assumed the chair, and appointed Comm. Jacopo Gelli and Prof. Gaetano Cogo as secretaries. The only paper presented at the opening session was by Prof. Gino Loria, regarding bibliographical methods of compiling catalogs.

During the afternoons of the two days following, the public sessions continued, and the following program was presented: "La Biblioteca Civica di Genova," by Prof. Ippolito Isola; "Fonti bibliografiche di letteratura marinara," by Cav. Salvatore Raineri; "Proposta di imporre l'obbligo ai tipografi di inviare una copia delle loro pubblicazioni anche alle biblioteche comunali del loro circondario," by Dr. Andrea Moschetti; "Saggio di bibliografia ligure," by Avv. Carlo Reynaudi; "Relazione sul 'Dizionario bio-bibliografico degli scrittori italiani,' promosso dalla Società Bibliografica Italiana," by Prof. Alessandro D'Ancona; "Proposta di un codice italiano per la compilazione delle schede dei cataloghi," by Prof. Giuseppe Fumagalli; "La introduzione della stampa in Genova ed i primi tipografi genovesi," by Cav. Luigi Augusto Cervetto; "Relazione sui reagenti chimici adatti a far rivivere le antiche scritture e sulle cautele da seguirsi nel loro uso," by Prof. Guido Pellizzari; "Lo stato di una biblioteca principale italiana nell'anno di grazia 1899," by Prof. Polecarpo Petrocchi; and "Le biblioteche nemiche della scuola," by Dr. Giulio Puliti.

The other papers in the program were not read, owing to the absence of their respective authors, whose presence would have been necessary for the answering of objections to their theories or projects offered.

Among the communications that aroused special interest was that of Professor Pellizzari, in which, in consequence of personal experiments, he expressed the opinion that the use of reagents, all more or less injurious, should be avoided or limited to exceptional cases, and with especial precautions, and advised recourse to photography, which not only allowed a clear reproduction of faded writing, but also of writing that had almost entirely disappeared. It was voted to publish Professor Pellizzari's report entire, with illustrations in chromolithography of parchments treated with reagents. The report of Professor D'Ancona on the "Dizionario bio-bibliografico degli scrittori italiani" was also listened to with great interest,

and authority was given to the council of directors to begin printing with the society's funds.

The proposition of a code of rules for the compilation of catalog cards met with favor also, and the council was requested to appoint a committee composed of librarians, bibliographers, publishers, and students, which should arrange for the compilation. As a result of the paper of Dr. Puliti, it was voted that the Minister of Public Instruction be requested to allow the students of secondary schools free access at certain hours of the day to the libraries in almost all cases connected with the schools.

The new council of directors of the association is as follows: President, Sen. Pietro Brambilla; Vice-presidents, Prof. Comm. Alessandro D'Ancona and Prof. Cav. Giuseppe Fumagalli; Councillors, Comm. Pietro Barbera, Cav. Dr. Diomede Bonamici, Avv. Emanuele Greppi, Marchese Cesare Imperiale di Sant Angelo, Prof. Gino Loria, Baron Alberto Lombroso, Count Ippolito Malagrizzi Valeri, Baron Antonio Manno, Prof. Cav. Francesco Novati, and Cav. Dr. Conrado Ricci. The next conference will probably be held at Rome, Florence, or Naples.

#### THE WASHINGTON, D. C., PUBLIC LIBRARY BUILDING.

THERE has been rapid progress made toward the establishment of a spacious and well-equipped home for the Public Library of the District of Columbia in the 11 months, since Andrew Carnegie's New Year gift of \$250,000 assured its erection. The gift was made on Jan. 12; on March 3 a law was passed authorizing the erection of the building upon a designated site in Mount Vernon square; conditions of competition were promptly drawn up by the library commission in conjunction with George B. Post and Henry Van Brunt as consulting architects; and on July 18 the plans of Ackerman and Ross, of New York, were selected from the 24 designs submitted. The accepted plans as modified and re-studied are shown in the accompanying illustrations (*see* frontispiece). Their main features are described in the recent (second) report of the library, as follows:

The structure proposed is about 224 feet long, east and west, and about 112 feet on the line of greatest depth, north and south. It harmonizes in proportion with the site, Mount Vernon square being about 510 feet long and 255 feet wide.

The library building is designed to be in the centre of the square, east and west, but will stand much nearer to the north than the south line, in order that a worthy approach may be secured for the long south front, and that the architectural attractiveness of the front may be enhanced.

The first floor of the building contains the most important rooms of the library. The main entrance, located in the centre of the south front, will lead into the reception hall, where the only attempt at noteworthy decoration

will be made. Just inside the doors, stairways on both sides will extend to the floor above and to that below. Passing these the library visitor will come at once to the delivery-counter, which faces the south entrance. The counter is so arranged as to attract immediate attention and to avoid delays in the service. The ceiling of this main hall is to be about 48 feet above the floor. A skylight will be arranged scientifically to admit a maximum of light with a minimum of heat from the rays of summer suns.

Arranged around the rear of the delivery-counter, which will be semicircular, are to be the administration-rooms of the library. Entrances will be provided on either side of the delivery-counter, but they will be for the use of library officials only. The administration-rooms will include the private office of the librarian, rooms where accessions will be received and handled, and where catalogers will be at work. The book-stack forms the northern wing of the building. It was found absolutely essential in order to bring the cost of the building within the amount available to reduce to a minimum the ground space occupied by the book-stack and to carry it up five tiers to the full height of the building. The capacity of the book-stack, 250,000 volumes, is, however, in connection with the open-shelf facilities, accommodating from 50,000 to 75,000 volumes, believed to be ample for the purposes of the library. The stack is so situated that it can be extended and enlarged without interfering with the architectural effect of the building.

The delivery-counter, situated as it will be, will give the officials at work behind it complete inspection facilities and full view and control of the public reading-room and the corridors.

In the east wing, to the right of the main entrance, will be located the public reading-room. It will occupy a space of 3000 square feet and will be lighted by broad windows reaching to the ceiling. The west wing will be divided into two departments, one-half being given over to open-shelf accommodations for books and the other half to the use of the children. The reception-room will be in the western section of the building. This room will be in close communication with the open-shelf room and will be provided with wall shelving. The open-shelf room will contain 1500 square feet and the reception-room 456 square feet. The children's room is of the same dimensions as the open-shelf department and will be separated from the latter by a temporary partition, which may be easily removed. Thus, if the growth of popularity of the open-shelf facilities demand it, this department can spread itself over the entire west wing and occupy a total space of 3456 square feet. In the event of such growth the children's room would be transferred to the basement wing reserved for that purpose, or it might possibly be removed to the second floor.

The reading-room in the east wing will be fitted with wall shelves. The value of open-

shelf provision rendering books easily accessible has not been underestimated, and arrangements have been made for the occupancy of every available space for this purpose.

On the second floor the west wing will be occupied by a lecture or class room of about 3000 square feet. In the east wing will be situated the newspaper and periodical department. The trustees' room and four special study rooms will also be situated on this floor.

In addition to the usual rooms provided in basements, such as engine rooms, boiler space, packing, delivery, binding, and repair departments, and stock and store-rooms, with ample toilet facilities and quarters for janitors and charwomen, the lunch-room, with kitchen and pantry equipments, will be located in that portion of the building. The bicycle-room will also have a place in the basement near the front entrance.

The basement's particular feature, however, is the reservation of an entire wing, constituting a single large room, well lighted and accessible, which may be used as a children's room if at any future time such use may seem desirable. Wherever the children may be ultimately located, their comfort and convenience will be carefully considered.

Mr. Bernard R. Green, of the Library of Congress, has been appointed to superintend the construction of the library building, in accordance with the terms of the law. The building must be commenced not later than March 3, 1900, and completed not later than March 3, 1902. Such progress has already been made in the preliminary work that the structure will evidently be easily begun and finished within the time limit.

Especial attention is to be given to the development of those features of work which, under the law, are to characterize the Washington library. It is to be conspicuously a lending library, with notable development of the open-shelf room, and marked, as already noted, by the special attention paid to the children's room, and to all departments which will increase the usefulness of the library in performing its primary function, in the words of the law creating it, "as a supplement to the public educational system of said District."

While Mr. Carnegie's original donation was \$250,000, this amount does not indicate the full measure of his beneficence in relation to the library. On the 14th of April, 1899, he increased his gift by \$50,000, in order to cover the cost of furniture and equipment for the library, architects' and superintendent's commissions, and other incidental expenses; and on Sept. 28, 1899, he made an additional donation of \$50,000, to meet an extraordinary increase in the cost of building materials, which threatened to prevent the execution of the accepted design of the library with the money available in the manner most creditable to Mr. Carnegie and to the national capital.

The acceptance of Mr. Carnegie's gift carried with it the pledge of suitable maintenance of the library by Congress, upon which the donation was conditioned.

## HANDBOOK OF AMERICAN LIBRARIES.

THE A. L. A. committee on a handbook of American libraries (F. J. Teggart, chairman, Mechanics' Institute Library, San Francisco) calls attention to the necessity for obtaining prompt and full material on this subject, which it is asked to present as part of the American library exhibit at the Paris Exposition.

"The object of the undertaking is to collect thoroughly reliable data regarding all the important phases of library work in the United States, supplemented by bibliographic particulars of the publications of all our libraries and such information regarding their development or administration as may have appeared in print. The profession will thus have before it a résumé of experience and practice, which is at present greatly needed for the advancement of the library interests of the country. Great as has been the development of our libraries during the past 25 years, the most recent conspectus of their condition and status is that contained in the Bureau of Education report for 1876. It is therefore felt that the time has arrived for bringing this information up to date."

The committee has issued a circular setting forth the main features of the plan and including question blanks designed to elicit specific information from libraries responding. It is urged that all librarians give prompt attention to this circular, answering the questions with accuracy and completeness, and thus aid in securing results creditable to the libraries of the United States.

## BIBLIOGRAPHICAL SOCIETY OF CHICAGO.

THE Bibliographical Society of Chicago, organized Oct. 23, 1899, has issued a leaflet giving officers and by-laws. Its objects are stated as being "1, to encourage and promote bibliographical study and research; 2, to compile and publish special bibliographies; 3, to arouse interest in the history of books and libraries." Its affairs are administered by a council whose duties are "1, to keep itself informed of the bibliographical work that is being done by the members of the society and others; 2, to consider plans and make recommendations as to publications to be undertaken by the society; 3, to call the attention of members to bibliographical work which, in the opinion of the council, ought to be undertaken; 4, to arrange for reports and papers to be submitted and read at the meetings of the society." The annual dues are \$2, a payment of \$25 admitting to life membership. Meetings are to be held at least four times a year, the annual meeting being held in April. The officers of the society are C. H. Hastings, president; Mabel McIlvaine, vice-president; A. G. S. Josephson, secretary; Caroline L. Elliott, treasurer. These officers, together with Clement W. Andrews, F. I. Carpenter, and F. H. Hild, constitute the council.

## American Library Association.

*President:* R. G. Thwaites, State Historical Society, Madison, Wis.

*Secretary:* Henry J. Carr, Public Library, Scranton, Pa.

*Treasurer:* Gardner M. Jones, Public Library, Salem, Mass.

### A. L. A. PUBLISHING SECTION.

#### ANNOTATED TITLES OF BOOKS ON ENGLISH HISTORY FOR 1899.

The first instalment of titles for the books of 1899 has just been issued. These are published as for the previous year, in two forms—(1) on cards and thin slips, the cards to be used for library catalogs or private memoranda, the slips to be inserted in the books themselves for the information of the reader, and (2) in pamphlet form, printed on one side of the leaf only, for those who do not find the cards convenient.

Subscriptions for the year should be sent to the A. L. A. Publishing Section, 10½ Beacon street, Boston. *Prices:* cards, \$1.25; pamphlet, 50 cents; cards and pamphlet together, \$1.50.

#### PRINTED CATALOG CARDS FOR PERIODICAL SETS AND FOR BOOKS OF COMPOSITE AUTHORSHIP.

The A. L. A. Publishing Section invites attention to the following list of publications suggested as suitable for analyzing by means of printed catalog cards.\*

The list includes a great variety of works, and many more than it would be wise to catalog in a single year. Librarians are therefore asked to state which ones they would prefer to see cataloged, and would probably take the cards for if offered. The Publishing Section will then select those sets most generally desired and will catalog these first, issuing the cards for probably eight to 12 works during the year 1900, or more if the demand warrants.

As in the case of the sets recently printed and others now in press, suggested subject-headings will be printed at the foot of the card, and enough cards will be provided to furnish for each title an author entry and the requisite number of subject entries. The cards will be of both the standard sizes.

Encouraged by the demand for the first sets, the Publishing Section has reduced the price for these to 75 cents and \$1 a hundred cards—75 cents in the case of those sets for which the most subscriptions may be expected, \$1 for those of less general interest.

The number of articles noted after each title is in many cases a careful estimate only. The number of cards in each set may be expected to be about two and a half times the number of articles.

The asterisk (\*) indicates that the current numbers of the publication are included among the periodicals for which printed cards are already regularly issued. Librarians who

think of purchasing the cards for these back sets are advised to subscribe for the current issues immediately.

Attention is particularly called to the proposed cards for the British Parliamentary Papers. Only the more important papers will be cataloged, and the cards should be useful not only to those libraries (very few in number) that buy the complete set of the papers, but especially to many other libraries that wish to procure those papers of the most general interest, but do not always learn of their publication.

The Publishing Section wishes to announce as early as possible which of the following sets it will print cards for in 1900, and a prompt response is therefore requested from librarians. Address correspondence to 10½ Beacon street, Boston, Mass.

1. American academy of political and social science. *Annals*, 1890-99, v. 1-13, with supplements. (236 articles.)
- \*2. American academy of arts and sciences. *Memoirs*, 1785-1888, v. 1-4, n. s. 1-11. (292 articles.)
- \*3. American antiquarian society. *Archæologia Americana*, 1820-85, v. 1-7. (23 articles.)
- \*4. American colonial tracts, 1897-98, v. 1-2. (15 articles.)
- \*5. American economic association. *Economic studies*, 1896-97, v. 1-2. (11 articles.)
- \*6. — Publications, 1887-96, v. 1-11. (57 articles.)
7. American historical association. *Papers*, 1885-91, v. 1-5. (57 articles.)
8. — Reports, 1889-98. (175 articles.)
9. American society of church history. *Papers*, 1889-97, v. 1-8. (58 articles.)
10. American statistical association. *Publications*, 1888-96, v. 1-5. (109 articles.)
- \*11. *Année philosophique*, 1890-97, v. 1-8. (24 articles.)  
Brewer, D. J., ed. *The world's best orations*. *In press*.
12. British association for the advancement of science. *Reports*, 1833-99, 68 v. (About 600 articles selected.)
13. Bureau of the American republics. *Publications*. (77 articles.)
14. Camden society. *Publications*, 1838-97, 162 v. (139 articles.)
- \*15. Columbia university contributions to philosophy, psychology, and education. 1891-95, v. 1. (4 articles.)
- \*16. Columbia university studies in history, economics, and public law. 1891-96, v. 1-7. (18 articles.)
- \*17. Cornell studies in classical philology. 1887-99, no. 1-9. (9 articles.)
- \*18. *Forschungen zur neueren Litteraturgeschichte*, 1896-98, no. 1-9. (9 articles.)
- \*19. *Gazette des beaux arts*, 1894-98, n. s., v. 11-20. (400 articles.)
20. Great Britain. Parliament. *Sessional papers*, 1896-99. Regularly continued reports, about 200; special reports and papers, about 100 each year, selected.

\* A first list was issued in March, 1899, and the cards for the first eight sets on that list have now been issued or are in press.

\* Current numbers are indexed regularly.

- \*21. Harvard studies in classical philology, 1890-96, v. 1-7. (61 articles.)
- \*22. [Harvard] Studies and notes in philology and literature, 1892-96, v. 1-5. (30 articles.)
- \*23. Haverford college studies, 1889-93 (27 articles.)
- 24. Historisches Taschenbuch, 1830-92. (351 articles.)
- 25. Hubbard, Elbert. Little journeys, 5 series. (60 articles.) Subject cards only.
- \*26. Johns Hopkins university studies in history and political science, 1883-98, v. 1-15. (117 articles.)
- 27. Mass. historical society. Collections, 1792-1899. (About 370 articles.) Only the more important articles will be taken from the earlier volumes.
- \*28. Michigan political science association. Publications, 1893-98, v. 1-2. (45 articles.)
- \*29. Modern language association. Transactions, Publications, 1884-98, v. 1-13. (142 articles.)
- \*30. Museum of comparative zoology. Bulletin, 1863-97, v. 1-30. (241 articles.)
- \*31. — Memoirs, 1864-99, v. 1-22. (45 articles.)
- \*32. National academy of sciences. Memoirs, 1866-95, v. 1-7. (49 articles.)
- 33. Old South leaflets, series 1-4. (100 articles.)
- \*34. Petermann's Mitteilungen, Ergänzungshefte, nos. 1-124. (124 articles.)
- 35. Powell, Lyman P., ed. American historic towns, 2 v. (25 articles.) In progress, others to be issued later.
- \*36. Princeton contributions to psychology, 1895-98. (21 articles.)
- 37. Shaler, N. S. United States of America, 1894. 2 v. (30 articles.)
- \*38. Smithsonian Institution. Contributions to knowledge, 1862-95, v. 1-28. (124 articles.)
- \*39. — Miscellaneous collections, 1862-97, v. 1-36. (155 articles.)
- \*40. Tufts college studies, 1894-98, nos. 1-5. (7 titles.)
- 41. U. S. Bureau of education. Circulars of information, 1873-99. (99 articles.)
- \*42. U. S. Geological survey. Bulletins, 1884-98, nos. 1-156. (156 articles.)
- \*43. — Monographs, 1882-98, v. 1-28. (40 articles.)
- 44. U. S. Geological and geographical survey of the territories. Reports, 1873-90, v. 1-13. (10 articles.)
- 45. — Miscellaneous publications, 12 nos. (12 articles.)
- \*46. U. S. National museum. Bulletin, 1875-98, nos. 1-49. (49 articles.)
- 47. U. S. Special consular reports, 1890-98, v. 1-14. (26 articles.)
- 48. University of Chicago. Studies, 6 series. (23 articles.)
- \*49. University of Pennsylvania. Publications in philology, political economy, philos-

ophy, Wharton School studies. (34 articles.)

- 50. — Translations and reprints from the original sources of European history, 1894-97, v. 1-6. (31 articles.)
- \*51. University of Toronto. Studies. 5 series. (11 articles.)
- \*52. University of Wisconsin. Bulletin, 4 series. (25 articles.)
- 53. Yale psychological laboratory. Studies, 1892-98. (31 articles.)
- \*54. Yale studies in English, 1898-99, nos. 1-5. (5 articles.)

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### State Library Commissions.

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COLORADO STATE BOARD OF LIBRARY COMMISSIONERS: C. R. Dudley, chairman, Public Library, Denver.

CONNECTICUT F. P. L. COMMITTEE: Caroline M. Hewins, secretary, Public Library, Hartford, Ct.

GEORGIA LIBRARY COMMISSION: Miss Anne Wallace, secretary, Carnegie Library, Atlanta, Ga.

INDIANA STATE LIBRARY COMMISSION: W. E. Henry, secretary, State Library, Indianapolis.

KANSAS STATE LIBRARY COMMISSION: James L. King, secretary, Topeka.

MAINE STATE LIBRARY COMMISSION: George T. Little, chairman, Bowdoin College Library, Brunswick.

MASSACHUSETTS STATE LIBRARY COMMISSION: Miss E. P. Sohler, secretary, Beverly.

MICHIGAN F. P. L. COMMISSION: Mrs. M. C. Spencer, secretary, State Library, Lansing.

The members of the library commission created by the last legislature met for organization on Nov. 23, when Hon. C. G. Luce, of Coldwater, was elected president, and Mrs. M. C. Spencer, state librarian, was made secretary. Mrs. Spencer, as state librarian, is an *ex officio* member of the commission. The other members are Hon. Peter White, Marquette; Col. H. N. Loud, Au Sable; J. M. C. Smith, Charlotte. The commission was addressed by H. M. Utley, of the Detroit Public Library, and by Mrs. Spencer, who described the work and methods of library commissions as in operation in other states. It was decided as a first step to discover how many cities and towns in the state have library facilities, and to this end a question circular was drafted, which will be sent throughout the state. The commission will make special effort to encourage the establishment of libraries.

MINNESOTA LIBRARY COMMISSION: Miss Gratia A. Countryman, secretary, Public Library, Minneapolis.

NEW HAMPSHIRE STATE LIBRARY COMMISSION: J. H. Whittier, secretary, East Rochester.

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\* Current numbers are indexed regularly.

**NEW YORK:** Public Libraries Division, State University, Melvil Dewey, director, Albany.

**OHIO STATE LIBRARY COMMISSION:** C. B. Galbreath, secretary, State Library, Columbus.

**VERMONT FREE LIBRARY COMMISSION:** Miss M. L. Titcomb, secretary, Goodrich Memorial Library, Newport.

The Vermont Library Commission has issued a reprint of two papers read at the recent meeting of the State Federation of Women's Clubs, on "Travelling libraries," by Mrs. W. P. Smith, and "How Vermont women's clubs may help the library commission," by Miss Mary L. Titcomb.

**WISCONSIN FREE LIBRARY COMMISSION:** F. A. Hutchins, secretary, Madison; Miss L. E. Stearns, librarian, Milwaukee.

The Wisconsin Free Library Commission enabled the libraries of the state to commemorate Thanksgiving in interesting fashion. A circular was issued, supplementing the "Suggestions for November bulletins," previously made, giving useful hints on means of developing civic interest, and containing on the inner pages a good classed "Thanksgiving Day reading list" for bulletin and reference use. With this circular was sent a fine copy of the governor's Thanksgiving Day proclamation of 1899, with the seal of the state and the governor's official signature. These copies were presented to the commission by Governor Schofield, to go to each library in the state. They were finely printed, the proclamation itself—printed on fine Windsor blue paper—being enclosed in an outer wrapper of Caspian blue, with lettering and seal in silver; and it was requested that they be attached to library bulletin boards, or otherwise displayed.

### State Library Associations.

#### CALIFORNIA LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.

*President:* F. J. Teggart, Mechanics' Institute Library, San Francisco.

*Secretary:* R. E. Cowan, 829 Mission Street, San Francisco.

*Treasurer:* Miss Emily I. Wade, Public Library, San Francisco.

#### COLORADO LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.

*President:* A. E. Whitaker, State University Library, Boulder.

*Secretary:* Herbert E. Richie, City Library, Denver.

*Treasurer:* J. W. Chapman, McClelland Library, Pueblo.

#### CONNECTICUT LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.

*President:* W. J. James, Wesleyan University Library, Middletown.

*Secretary:* Miss J. S. Heydrick, Pequot Library, Southport.

*Treasurer:* Miss Alice T. Cummings, Public Library, Hartford.

#### GEORGIA LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.

*President:* Walter B. Hill, University of Georgia, Athens.

*Secretary-Treasurer:* Miss Anne Wallace, Carnegie Library, Atlanta.

#### ILLINOIS STATE LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.

*President:* E. S. Willcox, Public Library, Peoria.

*Secretary:* Miss M. E. Ahern, Public Libraries, 215 Madison St., Chicago.

*Treasurer:* Mrs. Josephine Resor, Public Library, Canton.

#### INDIANA LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.

*President:* W. E. Henry, State Library, Indianapolis.

*Secretary:* Miss Belle S. Hanna, Public Library, Greencastle.

*Treasurer:* Miss Jessie Allen, Public Library, Indianapolis.

#### IOWA STATE LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.

*President:* W. H. Johnston, Public Library, Fort Dodge.

*Secretary and Treasurer:* Miss Ella McLoney, Public Library, Des Moines.

The Iowa Library Association held its 10th annual meeting at Cedar Rapids, Nov. 9 and 10. The meeting was a very successful one, a peculiar interest attaching to it because of the opportunity which it afforded of measuring the growth in library matters in Iowa within the past decade. The first meeting of the society was held in Des Moines, Sept. 2, 1890, with 20 persons in attendance. At the 10th meeting there was an enrolment of 69. It was not, however, only in point of numbers that the progress of the work was marked, but this was shown even more in the spirit which prevailed. The growth of the professional spirit was very clearly indicated, and the papers and discussions, and questions propounded through the question-box, showed that the librarians of Iowa had been taking a vigorous grasp of the problems involved in their work, and were working them out to a successful solution.

It was a great disappointment to all that Mr. Dewey, who had been expected at the meeting, was prevented by illness from being in attendance. The association was fortunate, however, in securing Dr. G. E. MacLean, the newly elected president of the State University of Iowa, to take the place upon the program for Thursday evening which had been assigned to Mr. Dewey, Dr. MacLean delivering an address on the subject of "University extension and libraries," which was a fitting close to this interesting meeting.

The association was called to order at 10 a.m. Wednesday by President Johnston, who, in his opening address, spoke of the first meeting of the society in 1890, and expressed his gratification that the membership of the association had so much increased since that time, and that the different parts of the state were better represented now than they ever had been before.



He reviewed the history of library progress in Iowa, spoke of the good work which had been done by the federation of women's clubs in promoting the establishment of libraries in various towns of the state, and emphasized, as he had done at several previous meetings, the need of a library commission for Iowa.

Miss Ella McLoney, secretary and treasurer, gave a report of the last annual meeting held in Omaha in connection with the Library Congress, prefacing her report with the statement that Iowa was the second state of the Union to form a state library association.

Mrs. Allan Dawson, of Des Moines, then read a paper, entitled "Of the making of books," which was an exhaustive review of the history of the art of book-making from the earliest time down to the present day.

At the afternoon session a paper was read by Miss Bullock, cataloger of the Iowa State Library, on the subject of "Classification and cataloging." Miss Bullock spoke in passing of the desirability of access to shelves, and predicted that in less than 25 years open shelves would be the rule in public libraries. She called attention to the general qualifications necessary to successful work in cataloging, pointed out cases of especially difficult classification, and named some reliable catalogs which would be particularly useful.

"The travelling library and the library commission" was the subject of an address by Miss L. E. Stearns, who told of the number of state library commissions which had been organized within the past nine years, of the value of these commissions and the way to secure them. The duties of commissioners were considered, especially in the direction of promoting the establishment and development of small libraries. Miss Stearns gave an interesting account of the work of the Wisconsin library commission, and left her hearers enthusiastic over the possibilities for Iowa in case the attempt to secure a library commission during the coming session of the legislature should prove successful. In opening the discussion of the subject, Mr. Brigham paid a warm tribute to the work of Miss Stearns, saying that she was quite as much a part of the history of the library work of Wisconsin as Senator Stout, or any other of the material promoters of the cause, and expressed the hope that Iowa might be equally fortunate in its workers. He then explained the formation of the travelling library system of Iowa, and read a number of letters from different small towns of the state showing the demand for these libraries and the work which they are doing.

Mrs. Norris, of Grinnell, who was not in attendance, had sent her paper, but, owing to the limited time, it was not read.

Mr. N. R. Parvin, of the Masonic Library, Cedar Rapids, spoke briefly, saying that he thought the work of the travelling library had paved the way for the library commission, and that the librarians should see to it that local sentiment on the subject of a commission was aroused.

A paper by Miss M. E. Ahern, on the "Edu-

cational power of the library," followed, which treated of the education to be gained through improving opportunities for general culture and self-discipline rather than through text-books merely, and spoke of the present as the day of large opportunities for intellectual development by means of the public library.

Miss Harriette L. McCrory, of the Cedar Rapids Public Library, presented a practical paper on "The school and library," dealing with the methods by which a library might be made of use to the teachers and pupils of the public schools. Miss McCrory told of the children's literary club of their library, which is divided into chapters, from the Eugene Field chapter for the little ones, up through Whittier, Longfellow, and Tennyson, to the Lowell chapter for children from 14 to 16. She also spoke of the children's room, which she considered an essential part of library equipment, even a children's corner being better than no attempt to work along this line. Exhibits of pictures also were recommended, that the love of beauty might be fostered.

The social event of the conference was the reception to the visiting librarians given at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Luther A. Brewer on Wednesday evening by the Cedar Rapids library board. This was a delightful occasion, and gave the librarians an opportunity of meeting one another in a way to promote good-fellowship and permanent and helpful acquaintance.

Thursday morning a business meeting was held, at which officers for the ensuing year were elected, as follows: President, W. H. Johnston, Fort Dodge; Vice-president, F. F. Dawley, Cedar Rapids; Secretary-treasurer, Ella M. McLoney, Des Moines. The executive committee is composed of these officers and Mr. A. P. Fleming, Des Moines, and Mrs. H. J. Howe, Marshalltown.

The discussion of the subject, "Relation of trustee and librarian," was opened by F. F. Dawley, of the Cedar Rapids library board. Trustees he said, have certain business duties, but they should be modest about pressing their views of library work, since the librarian makes this a special study. The selection of assistants should be left to the librarian. Mr. Dawley quoted the saying that "whoever is his own lawyer has a fool for a client," and said that trustees should not themselves try to be the librarian, but should employ a competent librarian, hold her responsible for results, and then let her alone.

Mr. A. P. Fleming, president of the board of trustees of the Des Moines Public Library, spoke of the value to library work of the meeting together of trustees and librarians, since without such help it would be impossible for the ordinary trustee to gain such information as would enable him to sympathize with and intelligently assist the librarian. He said that the success or failure of a board of trustees depended upon its composition, and that it never should be composed of men and women who have simply attained social standing or accumulated a fortune. They should be im-

bued with the library spirit, and be willing to work, and sacrifice, if need be, that the library of which they have charge may be of the highest public service. The question as to how far trustees may direct the affairs of the library without interfering with the legitimate functions of the librarian is one for careful consideration. The librarian is not only the executive officer of the board, but the proper adviser, and it is only through the librarian that the trustees can really know of the work of the library. Criticisms and suggestions should in all cases be made direct to the librarian, never to a member of the staff.

Mrs. Oberholtzer, of Sioux City, spoke from the librarian's point of view, saying that the whole question of economics divided itself into two parts — other people's rights and our own duties — and that in library administration it was well to be careful not to reverse this, and think only of one's own rights and other people's duties. The librarian has a right to the support of the trustees. She often is swamped with details of work which the trustees cannot see, and needs their confidence and help.

Mr. D. C. Bloomer, who for 34 years has been connected with the Council Bluffs Library in the various stages of its development from a young men's association to a free public library in 1881, gave an interesting review of his experiences during this long period, and of his relations with the different librarians who had been in charge during the time.

Judge E. P. Seeds, of the Manchester library board, spoke of the need of harmony of feeling and action between the librarian and trustees. He thought that the relation between the two was neither a social nor business relation, but simply a legal one.

Mrs. H. J. Howe, trustee of the Marshalltown Public Library, said that when the topic was presented to her she wondered why it had been chosen for discussion, since, if the board of trustees and librarian both were fair-minded and well-disposed, the relation could not fail to be satisfactory, and if they were not, no amount of discussion could make it so. Nevertheless, she discussed the question very interestingly, emphasizing the dignity of the office of librarian, and suggesting that, as city mayors in their appointments sometimes put the square people in the round holes, tact and mutual forbearance are essential to successful management.

Miss McLoney, of Des Moines, said that she thought the main difficulty in the way of a good understanding between librarian and trustees was in the fact that they looked at the work from different points of view. The trustees saw the library as a whole, and from the outside. They could see that certain things should be done, but did not understand the processes necessary to attain results. The librarian saw the details and recognized their importance. An attempt to see the work from a common point of view, and cordial co-operation, would attain good results.

Mrs. E. M. Carr, of the Manchester library

board, thought that the control of the library funds and the business features generally should be in the hands of the trustees. A great deal depends upon harmony of feeling and action between the trustees and librarian, and among the different members of the board. Mayors should consider it their duty to consult the board before appointing new members.

At the close of the discussion Miss Stearns read Melvil Dewey's list of qualifications for a good librarian. Probably no one who listened expected to be able to attain fully the high standard set up, but doubtless all felt that it would be the part of wisdom to at least "aim at a star." Certainly every one was interested to know of the recognized possibilities open to those who are engaged in library work.

The question-box was then opened, and, with Miss Ahern as leader, an interesting and profitable hour was spent in considering various problems of library economy.

Hon. T. S. Parvin, who was the first territorial librarian of Iowa, and who, by his personal efforts, has built up the unique institution known as the Masonic Library, located at Cedar Rapids, was called upon and spoke enthusiastically of the steady advance which the state has made in library work since the time of his appointment as librarian in 1838. He referred to the need of a library commission for Iowa, and introduced the following resolution, which was adopted unanimously:

*"Resolved, That a committee consisting of the state librarian, Mr. Johnson Brigham, the president of the library association, Mr. W. H. Johnston, Mrs. Hannah C. Towner, chairman special library committee appointed by the Federation of Women's Clubs of Iowa, and Miss L. E. Stearns, of Wisconsin, whose aid we earnestly invite, be constituted to prepare a paper setting forth the views of the Iowa State Library Association, of its public librarians and earnest library workers, as to the importance and necessity of constituting a library commission, after the plan of Wisconsin, New York, and a dozen or more states where the plan has been adopted and proved a most valuable aid in the management of our growing public libraries, and the bringing home to the people the value and necessity of such library commission for the general diffusion of knowledge among the people, old and young;*

*"That the president and secretary of the association forward a copy of such paper to each and every member-elect of the General Assembly, with a request that they lend their aid to secure the passage of a law creating such a commission."*

A special committee, composed of Charles Aldrich, librarian of the State Historical Department, Des Moines, chairman, Mr. Brigham, and Miss McLoney, had been appointed to prepare resolutions relative to the death of Mrs. Ada North, at one time state librarian of Iowa, and for many years librarian of the state university. In presenting these resolutions Miss McLoney read a few lines of a letter from Miss Esther Crawford, who was one of the early members of the association, and is now at the head of the cataloging department of the Dayton (O.) Public Library. Miss Crawford had written of Mrs. North that she felt that "the whole convention ought to rise up in silent gratitude to do homage to the brave, devoted, and wise spirit of this woman, who, more than any one else, brooded over its birth, and nursed and mothered it through its helpless infancy."

The following resolutions were unanimously adopted by a rising vote :

"This association has heard with profound sorrow that Mrs. Ada E. North departed this life at Des Moines, Jan. 9, 1899.

"We recognize in Mrs. North the founder of this organization, and for nearly a quarter of a century the most potent influence in Iowa in connection with the development of libraries.

"In the judgment of this association, her labors during her years of service as state librarian and as librarian of the state university, supplemented as they constantly were by frequent contributions to the public press, have resulted in inestimable and enduring benefit to our people.

"We deem it but simple justice to spread upon our records our high estimate of the valuable life-work and patriotic example of this distinguished Iowa woman, whom we recognize as the pioneer in the general movement destined to result in the establishment of a public library in every town and village in Iowa.

"Resolved, That a copy of this tribute, attested by the officers of the Iowa Library Association, be forwarded to the aged father of the deceased, and to the other members of her family, also to the LIBRARY JOURNAL and *Public Libraries*.

Signed (CHARLES ALDRICH,  
ELLA M. McLONEY,  
JOHNSON BRIGHAM.)

In the afternoon of Thursday carriages were provided by the local committee, and a delightful drive about the city was enjoyed by the guests; a visit to the Public Library and the Masonic Library afterward followed. At the Public Library Miss McCrory was assisted in receiving by members of her board of trustees, and refreshments were served by her assistants. The special features of the library—the open shelves, the children's corner, and the collection of pictures—were examined with much interest. The visit to the Masonic Library, with its rare books, art treasures and curios, was a treat to be remembered. Dr. Parvin and his son, Mr. N. R. Parvin, assisted by several ladies, gave the guests a cordial reception. Refreshments were served, and the hospitality of the host and his friends, combined with the interesting features of the library itself, made it difficult to cut short the visit, even when the shades of evening began to fall.

At eight o'clock an address by Dr. Geo. E. MacLean, president of the Iowa State University, on the subject of "University extension and libraries," was delivered before a large audience of librarians and citizens, and this ended the program of the association.

In point of numbers certainly, and probably in point of enthusiasm, the meeting was the most successful in the history of the association. While the program was a varied one, the keynote of the discussions was the question of a library commission for Iowa. A legislative committee, composed of F. F. Dawley, Cedar Rapids, A. P. Fleming, Des Moines, and Johnson Brigham, Des Moines, was appointed to present the matter officially to the legislature, which convenes in the coming January.

The growth in library sentiment had a practical indication in the increased number of librarians who were in attendance at the expense of the libraries which they serve. The Des Moines Public Library had a delegation of eight, the librarian, three assistants, and four trustees, the expenses of all being paid by the library.

The association seems at last to have grown

beyond the stage of experiment, and struggle for mere existence, and to have reached a point where it can be of substantial service to the librarians of the state.

ELLA M. McLONEY, *Secretary*.

Immediately following the convention of the Iowa State Library Association in Cedar Rapids, early in November, an important conference was held at the State Library in Des Moines to prepare a state library commission bill and to plan a campaign in support of the measure. The conference was called by the legislation committee of the state library association, and in response to the call the State Federation of Women's Clubs and other organizations sent special committees of representative women, every member of which evinced deep interest in and hearty sympathy with the purpose in view. A bill was prepared, the principal features of which are a non-salaried commission of seven members, three *ex officio*, namely: The state superintendent of schools, the president of the State University, and the state librarian, the remaining four to be appointed by the governor, at least two of the appointees to be women; the term to be five years; a secretary to be chosen by the board, outside its own membership; an appropriation of \$2000 to be asked for, in addition to the present appropriation of \$2000 for travelling libraries; the commission to co-operate with, not supersede, the present state library board, by the diffusion of library knowledge, the development of the library spirit, and the founding of libraries under the present law authorizing communities to vote a tax for library purposes. The purpose of the proposed law is to make present laws more operative and not to revolutionize the existing order of things. An address will be prepared and sent to the members of the legislature, with a copy of the proposed bill, strongly urging the creation of a library commission.

#### MAINE LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.

*President:* E. W. Hall, Colby University, Waterville.

*Treasurer:* Prof. G. T. Little, Bowdoin College, Brunswick.

#### MASSACHUSETTS LIBRARY CLUB.

*President:* W. L. R. Gifford, Public Library, Cambridge.

*Secretary:* F. O. Poole, Boston Athenæum.

*Treasurer:* Miss Margaret D. McGuffey, Public Library, Boston.

The Massachusetts Library Club will hold its next meeting in Boston, on Jan. 10, 1900. The morning session will be devoted to the consideration of how to aid small libraries. The club will be addressed by Miss L. E. Stearns, of the Wisconsin Free Library Commission, by a member of the Massachusetts State Library Commission, by Dr. G. E. Wire, and W. H. Tillinghast. The afternoon session will be taken up with an address on the relation of normal schools to the libraries, and discussions.

FRANKLIN O. POOLE, *Secretary*.

**WESTERN MASSACHUSETTS LIBRARY CLUB**

*President:* H. H. Ballard, Berkshire Athenæum, Pittsfield.

*Secretary:* Miss F. Mabel Winchell, Forbes Library, Northampton.

*Treasurer:* Miss Mary M. Robison, Free Library, Amherst.

The fall meeting of the Western Massachusetts Library Club was held Nov. 21 in the fine public library building of Dalton, Mass.

In the absence of Henry A. Barton, president of the board of directors of the Dalton library, a brief address of welcome was given by Rev. G. W. Andrews. The Rev. Edson L. Clark, founder of the Dalton Public Library, then gave an interesting address on "Historic Dalton." He briefly outlined the history of the town from early times to the present day, and gave a most interesting account of the growth of the library. In 1861 a library association was formed and shortly after the library was started by the purchase of 47 books, soon increased to 300. As there was no building, no room, and not even a case to hold the books, they were spread on Mr. Clark's study floor, and people came there and helped themselves. They were never charged. At the end of three years the books were recalled to make a printed catalog, and not one had been lost or injured.

The subject of "Delivery stations" was then considered, and experiences and suggestions were freely given.

Mr. J. C. Dana, of the City Library, Springfield, opened the discussion by telling of the various delivery stations operated in Springfield and vicinity without expense to the library. Books are sent to the Y. M. C. A. rooms, to Sunday-schools, and to the street-railway barns, as well as to some outlying districts.

Mr. W. I. Fletcher, of Amherst College Library, said that the state library commission has worked to such good purpose that there are now only five towns in the state without a free library, but investigation shows that in most towns only from one-fourth to one-tenth of the people of reading age are borrowers from the library. Is this due to the inaccessibility of the library? "If it is a good thing to have a free library, it is a better thing for the people to use it freely and constantly. If it were true, as some argue, that it is all that we can be asked or expected to do, to put books within reach of those who will make some effort to go after them, then we have little more to do. But this is not the true philosophy of popular culture. Just as schools are required to be kept in all districts of our towns, or the pupils from these districts are transported to central points at the public expense, so those having in charge the library interests of the towns, which are only secondary to the school interests, will endeavor to have the library find people where they live. Branch libraries and delivery stations are the logical outcome. In the cities, where the population is dense, at many points removed a mile or more from the main library, these out-stations are introduced as a matter of course, but as yet little seems to have been done in this direction in the country towns. As

the libraries in these towns get into working order and come to amount to something they must find some way of making themselves felt for good throughout the most rural of our communities."

Miss Nelson, of Pittsfield, Mr. Kingsbury, of Westfield, Mrs. Stanton, of Huntington, and a number of others took part in the discussion.

Miss M. L. Poland, superintendent of schools of Longmeadow, Wilbraham, and Ludlow, gave a forceful and practical paper on the subject "Is a system of travelling libraries needed in Western Massachusetts?" She spoke of the great need of reading-matter in the most rural communities, outside of villages, and of what inestimable help it would be to the teacher, and if to the teacher who goes away on her vacations and sees and hears something new, how much more to the mother who must stay there the year round. She thought travelling libraries would work better for such places than delivery stations.

Miss M. Anna Tarbell, of Brimfield, president of the Bay Path Library Club, then gave an excellent and thoughtful paper on "Co-operation between the library and the community."

These papers were both felt to be of so much interest and value that the club voted that they should be printed in full in the *Springfield Republican*.

The club dined at the Irving House on invitation of the directors of the library, and were afterward shown through the paper mill of Z. and W. Murray Crane.

The afternoon session was given up to the subject "Contagion through books," and the discussion brought out a number of different opinions. The various phases are indicated by the following questions, which were the basis of the discussion:

How shall we prevent the spread of disease by library books?

Shall the board of health inform the library of cases of scarlet fever, diphtheria, etc., or shall the library be left to find them out for itself?

Can books be effectively disinfected?

If destroyed, who shall bear the expense—the board of health, the library, or the borrower?

Shall books be brought back to the library to be destroyed or be destroyed without bringing back?

If the latter, by whom?

Shall we take the same precautions in other cases as in those of small-pox, scarlet fever, and diphtheria?

What is done in other libraries?

Mr. Cutter, of Northampton, Miss Shepard, of Springfield, Miss Nutting, of Mount Holyoke College Library, Miss Richmond, of Adams, Miss Laidley, of Northampton, and a number of others participated in the discussion.

The prevailing opinion seemed to be that books that had been exposed to scarlet fever, diphtheria, or small-pox, should be burned and not returned to the library.

The question whether tuberculosis and ty-

phoid fever should be included in the list was raised, but not answered.

An entertaining talk by Mr. Ballard, of Pittsfield, on the full names of some authors of fiction, completed the program.

The attendance included representatives from 17 or more towns, and was the largest since the formation of the club, with one exception, when a joint meeting of teachers and librarians was held.

F. MABEL WINCHELL, *Secretary*.

#### MICHIGAN LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.

*President*: H. M. Utley, Public Library, Detroit.

*Secretary*: Miss Genevieve M. Walton, Normal College Library, Ypsilanti.

*Treasurer*: Miss N. S. Loving, Public School Library, Ann Arbor.

The ninth annual meeting of the Michigan Library Association was held at Ypsilanti, Oct. 26 and 27. In point of attendance and also in number of libraries represented, it was the largest meeting of the association.

The library of the Normal College occupies the north wing of the building, with a reading-room to accommodate 150 students and cases for 2500 volumes of reference books. Two commodious stack-rooms contain 20,000 volumes. The whole is thrown together by spacious arches, and is lighted on every side. Pictures and casts fill every available wall-space. The guests were interested in the various details of the college library work, notably the efficient service of the large corps of student assistants.

The meetings were held in Starkweather Hall, the hall of the Students' Christian Association. The association was called to order at two o'clock, and was welcomed by Principal E. A. Lyman, of the college, who assured the members of the association of the sincere pleasure it gave him to find the school and the library associated in this tangible manner, proving their great mutual interest in matters educational. He hoped they would visit library and classes, and avail themselves of all services which the institution and its instructors and students could offer. To this President Utley responded in cordial and appropriate words, dwelling somewhat further on the educational side of library work.

Miss Julia S. Wood, of the Hackley Public Library, Muskegon, being detained by illness, sent a paper on "What tools to use and how to use them." It was intended for special service and suggestion to librarians in libraries of 1000 to 5000 volumes, and exactly served its purpose.

Miss Ellen Dean, of the Grand Rapids Literary Club, was next on the program, her subject being "Women's literary clubs." It looked from the club side, and was full of matter for thought, for "amendment of wrong-doing," and flashed with humor at the expense of the wrong-doing librarians.

"Open shelves," was the last topic on the program, and the discussion was opened by Miss Celia F. Waldo, of the Jackson Public

Library, and proved a fruitful source of argument and comment, the general sentiment being "generally in favor where they may be had."

The evening session was devoted to state library commissions, and was addressed by President Utley, on the history of commissions, and by R. P. Hayes, of Chicago, who spoke with enthusiasm, out of a rich experience. The meeting adjourned to the library for a reception—given by the librarian—where the visiting librarians met Principal and Mrs. Lyman, and other members of the college, and other citizens—and where the body of student assistants dispensed ices instead of literature.

Friday morning's program was given over to school libraries. Miss Mary Jordan, of the Central Normal School Library, Mt. Pleasant, read a full paper on the "Administration of the college library." Supt. W. J. McKone, of Albion, read a strong paper on "The superintendent and the school library," and Miss Mary L. Borkey, of the Normal College Training School, presented the subject of "Primary school-room libraries" in a paper equally full of reasons for the necessity she urged and of the charming personality of the speaker. Many of the college professors and students were present, and the interest felt was evinced by the close attention paid and the animated discussions which followed.

The afternoon meeting was held by special invitation in the Ladies' Library, which is in process of evolution into a public library. A short business session was closed by the election of officers, as follows: President, H. M. Utley, Public Library, Detroit; Vice-presidents, Sarah N. Williams, Charlotte Public Library, and Phoebe Parker, Hoyt Library, Bay City; Secretary, Miss G. M. Walton, Normal College Library, Ypsilanti; Treasurer, Nellie S. Loving, Public School Library, Ann Arbor. Albion was selected as the next place of meeting, and the association adjourned to the drawing rooms, where refreshments were served, after which an hour was devoted to a very spirited question-box, which was mostly on children's reading. The meeting owed a very large share of its interest and success to guests not engaged in active library work, notably Miss Ahern, of *Public Libraries*, R. P. Hayes, W. M. Palmer, and others.

GENEVIEVE M. WALTON, *Secretary*.

#### MINNESOTA LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.

*President*: Dr. W. W. Folwell, State University, Minneapolis.

*Secretary*: Miss Minnie McGraw, Public Library, Mankato.

*Treasurer*: Miss Anne Hammond, Public Library, St. Paul.

#### NEBRASKA LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.

*President*: W. E. Jillson, Doane College, Crete.

*Secretary*: Miss Edith Tobitt, Public Library, Omaha.

*Treasurer*: Miss M. A. O'Brien, Public Library, Omaha.

**NEW HAMPSHIRE LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.***President:* A. H. Chase, Concord.*Secretary:* Miss Grace Blanchard, Public Library, Concord.*Treasurer:* Miss E. A. Pickering, Public Library, Newington.**NEW JERSEY LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.***President:* Dr. E. C. Richardson, Princeton University Library.*Secretary:* Miss Clara W. Hunt, Free Public Library, Newark.*Treasurer:* Miss Cecelia C. Lambert, Public Library, Passaic.**NEW YORK LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.***President:* J. H. Canfield, Columbia University Library, New York City.*Secretary:* Miss M. E. Hazeltine, Prendergast Library, Jamestown.*Treasurer:* J. N. Wing, Free Circulating Library, 226 W. 42d st., New York City.**OHIO LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.***President:* Charles Orr, Case Library, Cleveland.*Secretary:* Miss Martha Mercer, Public Library, Mansfield.*Treasurer:* Miss K. W. Sherwood, Public Library, Cincinnati.**PENNSYLVANIA LIBRARY CLUB.***President:* Dr. E. J. Nolan, Academy of Natural Sciences, Philadelphia.*Secretary:* Miss Mary P. Farr, Philadelphia Normal School.*Treasurer:* Miss Jean E. Graffen, Free Library of Philadelphia.

The second meeting of the season was held on Monday, Nov. 13, by the invitation of the Dean of Bryn Mawr College and Miss Isabel Ely Lord, in the chapel of the college. Over 150 persons availed themselves of the invitation.

Dr. Edward J. Nolan, the president, took the chair, and introduced the business of the meeting in a felicitous speech.

The formal business of the evening was speedily disposed of and two new members were elected. Mrs. Fairchild, of the Library School at Albany, was then called upon by the president to read her paper, entitled "The function of the library is the development and enrichment of human life." The proposition around which she worked was formally stated in the following words: "The function of the library is the development and enrichment of the human life through the medium of the printed page." As it is to be hoped that Mrs. Fairchild will consent to have her paper printed as one of the "Occasional papers" of the club, it seems unnecessary at the present moment to dwell upon the details of this valuable contribution to the philosophy of libraries.

Her remarks were received with the greatest attention and brought forth an animated discussion.

A pleasant reception tendered to the Pennsylvania Library Club in Pembroke East by the Graduate Club of Bryn Mawr College made an attractive conclusion to a delightful evening.

MARY P. FARR, *Secretary*.

**WESTERN PENNSYLVANIA LIBRARY CLUB.***President:* Miss Helen Sperry, Carnegie Library, Homestead.*Secretary-Treasurer:* Miss Mary F. Macrum, Carnegie Library, Pittsburgh.**VERMONT LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.***President:* Miss S. C. Hagar, Fletcher Free Library, Burlington.*Secretary:* Miss M. L. Titcomb, Goodrich Memorial Library, Newport.*Treasurer:* E. F. Holbrook, Proctor.**WISCONSIN STATE LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.***President:* Mrs. Charles S. Morris, Berlin.*Secretary:* Miss Minnie M. Oakley, State Historical Society, Madison.*Treasurer:* Miss Nellie C. Silverthorn, Public Library, Wausau.**NORTH WISCONSIN TRAVELLING LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.***President:* Mrs. E. E. Vaughn, Ashland.*Secretary and Treasurer:* Miss Janet Green, Vaughn Library, Ashland.

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**Library Clubs.**


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**BAY PATH LIBRARY CLUB.***President:* Miss M. Anna Tarbell, Brimfield, Mass.*Secretary:* Mrs. C. A. Fuller, Oxford, Mass.*Treasurer:* Miss Nellie A. Cutter, Spencer, Mass.**LIBRARY CLUB OF BUFFALO.***President:* H. L. Elmendorf, Public Library.*Secretary-Treasurer:* Miss A. S. Woodcock, Grosvenor Library.**CHICAGO LIBRARY CLUB.***President:* C. B. Roden, Public Library, Chicago.*Secretary:* Miss Irene Warren, Chicago Normal School.*Treasurer:* Miss M. E. Ahern, Public Library, 215 Madison st., Chicago.

The regular monthly meeting of the Chicago Library Club was held Thursday evening, Nov. 9, at the Sherman House, in the parlors, which have been secured for the year. The pleasant surroundings seemed to inspire and give members the long-desired opportunity for conversation and becoming acquainted with each other. The executive committee reported for membership Miss Mary J. Pierce, Chicago Public Library, Miss Helen Dickey and Miss Grace Dewey, of the Chicago Normal School Library, who were unanimously elected.

In the absence of the chairman of the commit-

tee on statistics of libraries in Chicago and Cook County, the president reported that the chairman had found that personal visitation to libraries seemed necessary and some visits had been made. A communication from the director of the library exhibit at the Paris Exposition was read and referred to the executive committee. The paper of the evening was a comprehensive view of cataloging from its many sides. After a short discussion the meeting adjourned.

IRENE WARREN, *Secretary*.

#### NEW YORK LIBRARY CLUB.

*President*: Dr. J. S. Billings, N. Y. Public Library.

*Secretary*: W. H. Duncan, Jr., Flatbush Public Library, Brooklyn.

*Treasurer*: Miss Harriet Husted, Y. W. C. A. Library.

The November meeting of the New York Library Club was held on Thursday, Nov. 8, at the Mercantile Library, Astor Place, New York. There was a large gathering of members present and the meeting proved most interesting. Dr. J. S. Billings occupied the chair and introduced, as the first speaker of the afternoon, Mr. W. T. Peoples, of the Mercantile Library.

Mr. Peoples was delightfully reminiscent in his paper on the history of the Mercantile Library. He showed that the library in times gone by had been a great and important factor in the educational life of the city. University extension, as it is known and termed to-day, was a part of the methods and work of the library as early as 1827, when a course of 10 lectures devoted entirely to commercial law was instituted. Lecture courses were continued from that time to 1875, and the library introduced to this country such prominent platform lecturers as Thackeray and Wilkie Collins. Through its influence Mark Twain was induced to come to New York, where he lectured first on "Roughing it," being paid \$150 for his services; the following year he delivered two lectures and was paid \$1500. The Mercantile Library, Mr. Peoples mentioned, had been one of the first libraries to have open shelves, subscribers having always been allowed access to the shelves in the reference-rooms. He concluded by stating that although the Mercantile still remained a subscription library, there had not been lacking several sincere efforts to make it a free institution. Mr. A. T. Stewart had promised a site and building, but no situation seemed to suit the philanthropist. If it did not in the end become a free library, the Mercantile had at least enlightened others to give to free libraries and had been instrumental in having Mr. Tilden put the famous library clause in his will.

F. B. Bigelow then read a paper on "Old newspapers in the Society Library." He traced the growth of newspaper publishing from the first English newspaper, said to be the *Weekly News* issued in London in 1622, and noted especially *The Boston News-Letter* and *The Boston Gazette*.

After Mr. Bigelow's paper Dr. Billings called upon Mr. Eames and Mr. Paltsits to speak on

the collection of old newspapers in the New York Public Library. Mr. Paltsits stated that there was in course of preparation a complete history of colonial newspapers as found in American libraries.

The latter part of the meeting was devoted to a discussion of hours of library service considered from the standpoint of the employee. Among those who took part in the discussion were Mr. Wing and Miss Cragin, of the N. Y. Free Circulating Library, Miss Winsor, of the Newark Free Public Library, Dr. Canfield and Miss Prescott, of Columbia University Library, Miss Husted, of the Y. W. C. A. Library, Miss Rathbone, Miss Hitchler, W. R. Eastman, and Geo. W. Cole.

The hours of service required at the different libraries ran from 40 to 45 per week. Few of the speakers believed in the allotment of less than one hour for the lunch period. Many advocated shorter hours for catalogers. Dr. Billings summed up the question by saying that seven hours per day seemed to be the proper limit, with not less than one hour at meal time. The president also advocated a yearly vacation of one month.

After adjournment the members of the club, through the courtesy of Mr. Peoples, were served with a collation.

WILLIAM HENRY DUNCAN, JR., *Secretary*.

#### LIBRARY ASSOCIATION OF WASHINGTON CITY.

*President*: Dr. H. Carrington Bolton, Cosmos Club.

*Secretary*: W. L. Boyden, Librarian Supreme Council 33° A. A. Order of Scottish Rite.

*Treasurer*: T. L. Cole, Statute Law Book Co.

*Meetings*: Second Wednesday evening of each month.

The 42d regular meeting of the Library Association of Washington City was held at the Columbian University, Nov. 8, 1899, the president, Dr. H. C. Bolton, in the chair.

The executive committee reported the election to membership of the following: Miss Alice Fichtenkam, of the Public Documents Library, Mrs. B. Bourgeat, of the Copyright Department, Library of Congress, and Miss Emma V. Triepel, of the Library of the Treasury Department.

As only a few copies of the present handbook of the libraries of Washington remain, the president on motion appointed a committee, consisting of F. H. Parsons, Henderson Pressnell, and Miss Josephine A. Clark, to consider the advisability and practicability of having a new one printed.

Miss Myrta Lura Mason then read the first paper of the evening, it being a description of "Russian music and musicians," portraying the characteristics of the music of the Russian people, from peasant to professor.

This paper was followed by that of Dr. Bolton, on "Unconscious humor of typography," which was an interesting account, with examples, of the mistakes so often made by printers and others in the practice of their art.

WM. L. BOYDEN, *Secretary*.

## Library Schools and Training Classes.

### NEW YORK STATE LIBRARY SCHOOL.

The following bibliography and thesis subjects have been chosen by the senior class :

#### BIBLIOGRAPHIES.

1. Libraries and popular education. 2. Some phases of popular education in the United States. (Select.) Mr. F. W. Ashley.
- Glaciers. Miss E. E. Barker.
- State and popular education. (Select.) Miss Fanny Borden.
- Reading list for the children's librarian. Miss B. M. Brown.
- Classified list of articles on education in non-professional magazines for the past 20 years. Miss M. A. Knight.
- Politics and party government in New York City. Miss I. G. Mudge.
- Russian realists. Miss F. A. Paine.
- History of the 16th century. (Reading list.) Miss I. L. Saxton.
- Missions. (Reading list.) Miss F. E. Smith.
- Reading list for the children's librarian. Miss M. F. Williams.

#### THESES.

- Fifty years of gifts to American libraries. Mr. F. W. Ashley.
- A study in book selection. Miss Fanny Borden.
- Organization of a children's department. Miss B. M. Brown.
- Book annotation. Miss M. A. Knight.
- Picture bulletins. Miss I. G. Mudge.
- Problem of reading for the blind. Miss F. A. Paine.
- How I founded a library at Raumsberg. Miss I. L. Saxton.
- Literature of lectureships in the United States. Miss F. E. Smith.
- Library facilities of Washington, D. C. Miss M. F. Williams.

#### NONSENSE PARTY.

A member of the junior class thus describes an entertainment arranged by the senior class. "The seniors surprised us one day with gorgeous and highly artistic invitations to a nonsense party on the evening of Nov. 6. We all met at the Girls' Academy in strange and wonderful array. Little Jane, Mary and her Lamb, the Queen of hearts, the Black cat, the Paris exhibit, the House that Jack built, Little boy Blue, Japanese ladies, and Wandering minstrels joined in the fun. Mrs. Fairchild in sun-bonnet and kerchief read some amusing Irish stories from MacManus' 'In chimney corners.' The evening passed quickly with dancing and all sorts of nonsense."

#### SUMMER COURSE.

The summer course will begin Thursday, May 31, and end Wednesday, July 11. A hand-book of the summer course and an application form will be sent on application.

SALOME CUTLER FAIRCHILD.

### UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS LIBRARY SCHOOL.

#### THESES AND BIBLIOGRAPHIES.

The following subjects have been formally presented by the seniors for their final theses and bibliographies:

- Ambler, Sarah. Public documents: their care and use in Iowa libraries of 5000 to 20,000 volumes.
- Beck, Florence M. Public normal school libraries in the United States.
- Bixby, Alice. History of children's libraries in Illinois.
- Branch, Elizabeth. Subject index to Illinois school reports, 1872-1884.
- Briesen, Henriette von. Select bibliography of Schiller's Jungfrau von Orleans, with annotations (to accompany a work being prepared by the head professor of German).
- Clatworthy, Linda N. Subject index to Illinois school reports, 1857-1872.
- Gunthrop, Pauline. Study of American history through a selected and annotated list of historical novels from 1492-1898 (prepared under the direction of Mr. John Thomson, of the Philadelphia Free Library).
- Haven, Georgetta. Library schools and apprentice classes.
- Hurlbert, Dorothy. Subject index to Illinois school report, 1885-1897.
- Jackman, Ida L. Bibliography of the Old Northwest, 1783-1861; limited to books of travel, guide-books, gazetteers, and general description.
- Lathrop, Olive. History of the development of libraries in Michigan.
- Price, Anna. Library legislation in Nebraska, its past, with suggestions for the future.
- Price, Helen L. History and condition of libraries in Kentucky.
- Sanford, Della C. Libraries in high schools in Wisconsin.
- Sawyer, Ida E. Printed catalog cards and their value.
- Sears, Minnie. School libraries in Indiana.
- Seeley, Blanche. High school libraries in Minnesota.
- Shawhan, Gertrude. School libraries in Illinois and a proposed law for their improvement.
- Shrum, Mabel. Reading list on Colorado Springs and Manitou, Col.
- Wandell, Caroline. Selection of 500 books for young people, with annotations and prices.
- Waters, W. O. History and statistics of libraries in Illinois.
- West, Mabelle. Pictures as a means of arousing interest in libraries.
- Willcox, Lucy B. E. History and description of theological seminary libraries of Chicago and vicinity.

#### PERSONAL NOTES.

- Miss Mary E. Gale, '94-'95, reorganized the Danville (Ill.) Public Library during the summer. In September she accepted a position in the library of the University of West Virginia.
- Miss Elma Warwick, graduate '97, accession clerk at the University of Illinois, '98-'99 is librarian of the new Normal School at De Kalb.



## Library Economy and History.

### GENERAL.

The BULLETIN of the U. S. Department of Labor for September is devoted in greater part to "Statistics of cities." Table 10 deals with "city schools and libraries." The returns for free public libraries are under the following heads: number of libraries in city, number of volumes in libraries, and number of volumes withdrawn, both for home use and for use in the reading-rooms. These statistics of cities were compiled and published according to an act of Congress which became a law July 1, 1898. They are to be an annual feature of Department of Labor publications. All cities of the United States having over 30,000 population are to be thus annually reported on, and 140 come within the scope of this investigation. Of this number, 44 are without free public libraries.

The *Centralblatt für Bibliothekswesen* announces that beginning with 1900 it will issue a series of *Blätter für Volksbibliotheken und Lesehallen* as a supplement to the *Centralblatt*. The new publication will be under the editorship of Dr. A. Graesel and will be devoted to the more popular and generally educational aspects of library development and management, leaving to the *Centralblatt* matters of scientific bibliography and research. The subscription price of the *Blätter* alone is four marks; with the *Centralblatt*, 16 marks; it is expected that they will appear in monthly parts.

GREENWOOD'S LIBRARY YEAR BOOK, it is announced, is to be issued in a new revised edition, to commemorate the jubilee of the library movement in Great Britain from 1850-1900.

The Library will initiate its new series with the appearance of a December number, to be the first issue in the new quarterly form. It will be illustrated, printed at the Chiswick Press, and published by Kegan Paul & Co., under the editorship of Mr. J. Y. W. McAlister. In addition to articles dealing with subjects of special bibliographic and library interest, each number will contain reviews and criticisms in art, drama, and science; there will also be frontispiece portraits of eminent bookmen, past or present, with biographical sketches. The bibliographical section will be edited with the collaboration of Alfred Pollard, and important special articles are announced. The subscription price of the new quarterly is 10s. 6d. yearly.

### LOCAL.

Amsterdam (N. Y.) F. L. A. (Rpt. — year ending Sept. 1, '99.) Added 433; total not stated. Issued, home use 47,554 (fict. 27,050; juv. 15,462). No. readers 15,626.

Application boxes have been placed in the schools, mills, and larger stores. "These boxes have been an important factor in the increased circulation from the schools. Among the mills only one refused to take them, saying

they would be more bother than they were worth; the other mills willingly gave them a place.

"No more devoted friends of the library can be found than the children, their natural fondness for reading being encouraged and their taste for good books developed by the admirable lists prepared by Superintendent Davis for the sixth and seventh grades. In this work for the children Mr. Davis is ably seconded by his teachers in these grades, who take pains to prepare lists of books for their pupils to copy, and require from them the author, title, number of pages, and brief description of every book read. In the high school the regents' reading lists are required for all pupils, and of these the library contains one or more copies."

Atlanta, Ga. Carnegie L. It is announced that the library will not be opened free to the public until the completion of the new building, as the period of construction must be given up to the classification, cataloging, and reorganization of the collection. In the meantime the library will be available for free reference use or for circulation to members paying the annual fee of \$2.

Brooklyn, N. Y. Pratt Institute F. L. (Rpt. — year ending June 30, '99.) Added 3312; total 67,906. Issued, home use 273,775 (to children under 14, 38,101); the use of fiction (incl. juv. and foreign) was 67%, 3% less than last year. Attendance in ref. dept. 34,148 (10,103 at Astral branch). New registration 5020; total active membership 35,216.

An interesting and well-arranged report. The special event of the library year has been the adoption of a modified form of open shelves. This was inaugurated in March, when shelves were fitted up for about 1000 volumes in the registration-room at the south end of the delivery-room. At first no fiction was included in the selection, but later some of the standard but partially forgotten novels were placed on the shelves. The results have been entirely satisfactory. "The circulation from 1000 volumes has not been large, only 4098 in the 103 days, the public seeming to find it difficult to believe that they could be admitted to the books; but the pleasure and interest of those who have taken books and the change in the character of the reading of many long-time borrowers have more than repaid us for the trouble and expense of the experiment."

Three changes, later adopted, are referred to — the abolition of the guarantor system and the adoption of a simple reference instead; the provision of extra copies of popular novels on payment of a small sum by borrowers, thus meeting a demand that the library could not otherwise supply; and the establishment of a monthly bulletin of accessions, etc.

The general and art reference departments have been largely used. In the former the pamphlet collection has been much consulted, timely pamphlets being "at once on receipt put into rope-manilla binding and placed on the shelves, being at the same time noted in the catalogs." In the latter the collection of

16,000 mounted photographs is proving of increasing value to the public.

That part of the report given to the children's department is of much interest. In the room itself a wooden sheathing was put up inside the walls from floor to ceiling, "over which coarse burlaps was stretched tightly and nailed fast. The burlaps was then painted the color desired, and we had a surface into which we could put innumerable thumb-tacks without injury to the walls. This means the ability to put up bulletins, exhibits, etc., anywhere on the walls. The only defect in the arrangement has been a tendency on the part of the burlaps to wrinkle as the wood under it became dryer." With the beginning of the year call-numbers were recorded on the children's cards, which, as they are filled up, are filed away for reference and for statistics. "After an experience of three years with this department we have come to the conclusion that its work should not be reformatory, but educational; that the children who need reforming need it so much that it would require the whole time and attention of any institution undertaking it, and that in the meantime the larger number of children ready for the educational work would be neglected. Children who seemed corrupt or in any way incorrigible, and who had an evil influence over other children, have been denied access to the library therefore after a reasonable trial had been given."

The work of the library school is reviewed, the library's other activities—cataloging routine, Astral branch, etc.—are noted, and the report throughout is suggestive and informing.

*Brooklyn (N. Y.) P. L. A.* A meeting of the association was held on Nov. 20, at the residence of Mrs. B. F. Stephens. The work and prospects of the Flatbush Public Library, the Tompkins Park Library, and the Brooklyn Public Library were described by various speakers, and Henry Sanger Snow, of the Brooklyn Library and Brooklyn Public Library boards, spoke on need of greater library development in the city.

*Cleveland, O. Case L.* The fourth annual exhibit of amateur photography held at the library was opened on Nov. 20, continuing until Dec. 2.

*Cleveland (O.) P. L.* The condition of affairs regarding a new library building, which has been a subject of discussion for some years past, is reviewed by the board of trustees in the forthcoming library report, as follows:

"The most important question before the library board during the past year has been that of a new building. The Public Library bonds for \$250,000, authorized by the law of April 22, 1896, were sold in October, 1898, for \$295,250. The proceeds of this sale are deposited with the city treasurer as a building fund. Early in the year various sites were discussed by the board, but no definite conclusion was reached. When the plan of grouping the various public buildings began to be seriously discussed, the library board decided to defer a decision as to a site for a time, hoping that it

might be possible for the various boards and commissions charged with the erection of public buildings to unite upon a plan of grouping them. The board deemed it unwise, so long as such a plan was a possibility, to commit itself to any site or plan which would prevent the library building from forming part of such a group. A resolution was passed at the Jan. 11, 1899, meeting, expressing the approval of the board of such a plan, and their desire to co-operate with the other boards and commissions in bringing it about. The members have also taken part in various meetings which have been held to consider this important subject. The board has also conferred through the special committee, with committees of the board of education in regard to co-operation in building, and also with the trustees of the Case Library, in regard to a co-operation with that institution."

It will be seen that as yet no definite conclusions regarding the new library building have been reached. It is hoped by many that the building may be associated with the new civic buildings to be erected, in accord with a harmonious "group plan," which has been much discussed.

*Dayton (O.) P. L.* (39th rpt. — year ending Aug. 31, '99.) Added 2736; total 44,048. Issued, home use 128,673 (fict. 49%; juv. fict. 21%); ref. use (estimated) 80,885. New cards issued 2759; cards in use 9329. Receipts \$13,866.43; expenses \$12,187.98.

There is evident a large development in the extent and character of the library's work. "The whole library has become a reading-room, and is more continuously used at all hours of the day than ever before." Much has been accomplished in the catalog department, where a duplicate catalog of juvenile books has been prepared, the old card catalog has been made available for public use, and extensions of cataloging have been made in several directions. A "table of comparisons" is appended, which shows that, "in the mere matter of the bulk of its work, the library, under the present system (1896-99), has accomplished 54 per cent. more work at 20 per cent. less cost than it would have required to do the same amount of work in the same length of time under the former system." Appended to the report is an historical summary, comprising a brief history of the library from 1853 to 1887, the legislation relating to it, and an interesting facsimile of the "Constitution of the Social Library Society of Dayton" (1805-1835), with statistical lists, etc.

*Denver (Col.) P. L.* The library was reopened early in November in its new quarters on upper 15th street. A children's room has been established.

*Evanston (Ill.) F. P. L.* Nov. 24 was observed as the third annual "library day," and the building was thrown open to visitors in the afternoon and evening. An interesting Indian exhibit was displayed, and photographs of American libraries were also shown. In the evening a free lecture on "Color photography" was given in the council-room.

*Hopedale, Mass. Bancroft L.* The library building erected by Joseph Bancroft as a memorial to his wife was recently completed. It is built of Milford granite, in modified old English style, and is 72 x 74 feet in dimensions, standing on a lot of 102 feet. It is single-storied, with a basement, and contains delivery-room and book-room, handsome reading and reference rooms, a small alcove study, librarian's office, etc. The capacity of the book-room is about 20,000 v. The interior finishing is rich and harmonious, and the building is fully and handsomely equipped.

*Macon, Ga.* The opening of the S. B. Price Free Library has been deferred until Christmas day, when it will be formally turned over to the trustees. Among recent contributors of books to the library are Mr. and Mrs. Kendall, Sir Henry Irving, Clara Barton, James Otis, F. Marion Crawford, and Walter C. Wyckoff.

*Macon (Ga.) P. L.* The library directors have decided to make further efforts to maintain the library. About \$1000 has been offered by interested persons to aid in clearing the way, and a special committee has been appointed to adopt such measures as seem best adapted to remove the present financial difficulties.

*Marshfield, Vt. Jaquith F. P. L.* The new library building was dedicated and formally opened to the public on Nov. 16. The library was established from a bequest of \$6000 left by Mr. and Mrs. Jaquith, of Marshfield, to which the town has added a yearly library tax. Mrs. E. A. Thomas is librarian.

*New England Travelling L. A.* The New England Travelling Library Association has recently been incorporated in Connecticut, with headquarters in Hartford. The objects of the association, it is stated, are to lend books for free public libraries, to establish and maintain temporary free libraries and reading-rooms, and to promote the establishment of these institutions throughout New England. The president of the association is Charles Dudley Warner; Nathan Haskell Dole is secretary; and the directors are Miss Emma A. Kalbfleisch and Anna Chapin Ray. The councillors are Margaret Deland, Edward Everett Hale, Laura E. Richards, T. B. Aldrich, Kate Douglas Wiggin Riggs, and Dr. Charles Ray Palmer. Little has yet been heard by librarians as to the actual workings of this association or whether those whose names are given in connection with it—beyond that of Miss Kalbfleisch, the active representative—have definite relations with it, as the name of Mrs. Ray, given as a co-director with Miss Kalbfleisch, has been used, it is understood, in that relation without authority.

*Newport, R. I. Redwood L.* (169th rpt.—year ending Aug. 16, '99.) Added, 1134; total 46,215; issued, home use 16,557 (fict. 71.2 %), an increase of 1135 over the previous year.

The introduction of steam heat and the installation of a new skylight have been needed improvements. More shelving space is urgently

required, and an income for the specific purpose of cataloging is also essential.

*Norwich, Ct. Otis L.* (Rpt.—year ending Aug. 31, '99.) Added 1599; total 23,095. Issued, home use 89,559 (fict. 53.79 %). New registration 1725; total registration 8255. Sunday visits to reading-room 1508. Receipts \$6412.81; expenses \$6300.76.

In January, 1900, the library will complete its first half century, embracing 43 years and nine months as a subscription library and six years and three months as a free library. During the latter period it has issued 584,343 v. for home reading, "a number probably double what were loaned during its entire previous life of nearly 44 years."

The circulation for the year shows a decrease of 5338 v. from that of the preceding period. "This experience is quite similar to that of other libraries whose reports are now accessible, and is generally accounted for by the stirring events of the past year, which led readers to pay more attention to newspapers than to books; and by the increased activity in business, giving more active employment to a large class who might otherwise make good use of enforced leisure by employing the time in reading and study." A feature of this decrease has been that it mainly affects the reading of fiction, in which class alone there has been a falling off of 4584 v., or about 86 per cent. "Much significance must be attached to the increase in the use of books other than fiction by young readers during the past five years. This steady and rather remarkable increase is believed to be wholly due to the increasing use of the library by the pupils in our schools. It is a department of the work of the library which can be encouraged, stimulated, and to some extent systematized by a library of slender resources like our own; and the importance of the work can hardly be overestimated. It has been a pleasure to the librarian to accept invitations to teachers' meetings, to explain to teachers the privileges which the library affords them; to consult with them regarding the books most needed in their courses of study, and devise with them ways and means for the most effective co-operation." Additional shelf room and a separate children's department are needed.

"The relations of the library with representatives of the parent city of Norwich, England, mentioned in the report for last year, continue active. Several gifts of books, pamphlets, and newspapers have been received from citizens of the older Norwich, also a handsome portrait of Sir Thomas Browne, and a photograph of the public square where it is proposed to erect a statue to this eminent man."

*Pawtucket (R. I.) P. L.* The cornerstone of the new library building was laid on the afternoon of Nov. 18, with elaborate ceremonies. The building will be known as the Deborah Cook Sayles Public Library.

*Pittsburgh, Pa. Carnegie L.* It is announced that Mr. Carnegie is prepared at any time to

provide \$1,750,000 for the contemplated enlargement of the Carnegie institute, arrangements for which are delayed until the site desired is granted by the city.

*Quincy (Ill.) F. P. L.* (11th rpt. — year ending May 31, '99.) Added 918; total 24,916. Issued, home use 64,046 (fict. 35,490; juv. fict. 12,787); ref. use 4310; visitors to reading-room 57,049. New cardholders 1002; total cardholders 7188. Receipts \$7820.03; expenses \$5083.78.

The statistics of circulation show a very considerable decrease, largely due to the closing of the library for five weeks during the busy season. The children's department is still mainly an experiment, "and its results are yet to be seen." Four travelling school libraries were sent out and have proved most satisfactory.

*Raleigh, N. C. Olivia Raney L.* The trustees of the Olivia Raney Library, which was incorporated by the General Assembly of 1899, met for organization on Nov. 21, when R. H. Battle was elected president, F. P. Haywood, secretary, and H. W. Jackson, treasurer. Miss Jennie H. Coffin was elected librarian.

The library, which is to be free to the public both for circulation and reference, is founded by R. B. Raney as a memorial to his wife. The building, which has an excellent central location, will be completed in the early spring and will cost about \$30,000. It will begin work with a nucleus of 5000 or 6000 volumes.

*Seaboard Air Line travelling librs.* Mrs. E. B. Heard, superintendent of the travelling library system of the Seaboard Air Line, has recently completed the cataloging and organization of the books given to the system by Andrew Carnegie. The system now comprises 30 travelling libraries of 60 v. each, including a variety of subjects. This number will afford 80 towns one library three months each year, and it is expected that the cabinets now ready will be increased by the addition of 10 more every year. The annotated catalogs just completed by Mrs. Heard will be distributed among the people of the communities where they are to be sent. A book-mark, on which are printed quotations from such authors as Channing, Geikie, Gibbon, and others, will be placed in each book. The rules governing the plan of distribution will be few and simple. No fee will be charged for the use of the books, and everything will be done to invite and attract their perusal.

*Syracuse (N. Y.) Central L.* The librarian's report for the year ending June 30, 1899, was recently presented. It gives the following statistics: Added 4954; total 42,644. Issued, home use 145,492 (fict. 817 %).

*University of Vermont L., Burlington.* Since the opening of the college year in 1898 this library has received in addition to its accessions by purchase and smaller gifts four collections considerable in size and comprising many rare and valuable works. Three out of the four represent the diligent search during many years of a collector expert in its special line.

First, Mr. Henry Holt, the educational publisher, gave the library *carte blanche* to order from his catalog, resulting in the acquisition of 256 volumes. Next came the gift by Gen. Rush C. Hawkins of a collection of 14,444 volumes on the Civil War. The library of the Hon. Lucius E. Chittenden of Americana and Vermont was bought and given to the university, embracing above 2600 volumes, a fund for the future historian of Vermont whose value can hardly be estimated in money, and a monument to the industry and research of its former owner. Last have come nearly 3000 volumes, the publications and individual acquisitions of the Whittingham and Stevens families, well known in London for the last 50 years as leaders in publishing and selling fine books. These have not yet been unpacked, but are known to include many treasures.

Three lectures have been given this year by the librarian to the freshmen on the arrangement of the library, the use of the card catalog, and the more common reference books, accompanied by practical exercises, the work being made a requirement in every course.

*Washington, D. C. L. of Congress.* Arrangements have been made to establish a collection of reference and bibliographical books in the capitol for Congressional use, thus bringing library facilities directly to senators and congressmen.

The library has received from Gen. W. B. Franklin, of Hartford, Ct., a rare and perfect copy of Captain John Smith's "Historie of Virginia." It is a large-paper copy of the original folio or 1624 edition, bound by Riviere in red crushed levant. It is a perfect copy, containing the few lines of Errata at the end and the original impressions of portraits of the Duchess of Richmond and Lenox, and of Mataoka, the daughter of Powhattan, better known as Pocahontas. Copies of the book, in the same edition, have sold within the past 20 years as follows: Brinley copy, 1879, \$1800; Beckford copy, 1883, 605 pounds sterling; Barlow copy, 1890, \$1900.

*Washington, D. C. P. L. of the District of Columbia.* (2d rpt. — year ending June 30, '99.) Added (since July 15, 1898, when the library received the collection, of 12,275 v., of the former Washington City Free Library, and other material) 4400; total 16,650. "In addition there are something over 2000 bound books, 4000 unbound books and pamphlets, and 2450 magazines now in process of cataloging." Issued, home use (six months of 1899) 57,734 (fict. 47,977). Registration 6712.

The report covers but six months of the library's work with the public, and necessarily is mainly devoted to details of organization. There has been a good attendance in the reference and reading room. A children's department is much needed, but it has not yet proved possible to establish this, though juvenile books are grouped in a special "children's corner." Students' cards, for extra books, are issued on request; and there is a "duplicate collection" of popular fiction for the use of which 10 cents

per week is charged, to defray the cost of the extra copies.

The report of the commissioners, which precedes the librarian's report, is almost wholly devoted to a description of the plans for the new building, and is reprinted elsewhere (*see p. 676*).

Mr. Flint recommends special supplementary work to be carried on by the library with the schools. He says: "Since the opening of the library the book-shelves have been absolutely free to all borrowers, and so far as known the results have been satisfactory. One necessity for this course, if there had been no other reason, was on account of the lack of sufficient assistants to answer all the calls made at the delivery-desk, except by allowing readers to make their own selections from the shelves. Of course there has been some confusion, overcrowding in the alcoves, many books misplaced, but on the whole it is believed that the plan has worked satisfactorily."

*Whitewater (Wis.) P. L.* On Nov. 1 the cornerstone of the new city hall and public library building was laid with Masonic ceremonies. It is hoped that the building may be completed early in January.

#### FOREIGN.

*ADRESSBUCH der Bibliotheken der Oesterreichisch-ungarischen Monarchie*; bearb. v. Dr. H. Bohatta u. Dr. M. Holzmann. Vienna, C: Fromme, 1899. 7 + 573 p. 8°. 14 marks.

Contains information of nearly 4000 libraries. The first comprehensive handbook of Austrian libraries since Petzholdt.

*British Museum L.* (Return, year ending March 31, '99.) The number of visits to the reading-room during the year was 190,886; the number of volumes supplied to readers was 1,397,145. "There has been a marked increase in the total number of visits of students to the several departments other than the reading-room. This is partly to be attributed to the extension of students' rooms." The accessions of the year comprise 26,525 volumes and pamphlets, 66,282 parts of volumes or separate numbers, 1085 maps in 12,952 sheets, and 4619 pieces of music. The newspaper accessions, for the United Kingdom alone, were 222,674 single numbers of 3437 newspapers. Of the accessions of complete works (estimated at 30,322) 6179 were purchased and 4390 were presented, the remainder being acquired by copyright and exchange. "The most remarkable incident in a year of important acquisitions has been the purchase of three Caxtons, a circumstance probably unprecedented." These were "Parvus et magnus Chato," third edition, and "De curia Sapientiae," both printed about 1481, and formerly in the collection of Maurice Johnson, of Spalding; and "Proffytes of Tribulacyon," from the Ashburnham library, printed in 1490. Many notable and interesting accessions are noted at length.

In the cataloging department progress has been made in printing the whole catalog. 37 manuscript volumes have been prepared and

sent to press, and two printed parts, representing 10 manuscript volumes, have been issued; 11 of the volumes issued in 1881, the first year of printing, have been reprinted, and the heading "periodical publications" is being revised and reprinted.

*Hawarden, St. Deniol's L.* The Gladstone National Memorial Committee having voted £10,000 for the erection of a fitting home for St. Deniol's Library, it has been possible to make considerable progress with the work. On Oct. 5 the cornerstone was laid by the Duke of Westminster, in the presence of Mrs. Gladstone and members of the Gladstone family, with simple ceremonies. The stone, which is of gray granite, is dedicated "to the glory of God and in lasting memory of William Ewart Gladstone," and bears this inscription:

ST. DENIOL'S LIBRARY, HAWARDEN.

"In this building, erected to his memory by a grateful nation, is preserved the library of William Ewart Gladstone, who, eminent no less as a theologian than as a statesman, established this foundation for the advancement of divine learning."

*London, West Ham F. L.* The West Ham Free Library and Institute was practically destroyed by fire on Oct. 23. Largely through the efforts of Mr. Cotgreave, the librarian, a portion of the books were saved, though all were badly damaged by water. The library buildings were erected only a year ago, at a cost of nearly £90,000.

#### Gifts and Bequests.

*Atlanta, Ga. Carnegie L.* Andrew Carnegie has made an additional gift of \$25,000 to the library building fund, thus making his total library gift to Atlanta \$125,000. The additional gift was a result of a recent visit to Mr. Carnegie in New York by Miss Wallace, the librarian.

*Barre (Mass.) P. L.* By the death on Nov. 26 of Mrs. Caroline A. Billings the Barre Public Library will receive a bequest approximately of \$25,000. This sum was left to the library by the late Dr. L. F. Billings, the bequest to become operative upon his wife's death.

*Bucyrus (O.) Memorial L.* The library has received a gift of \$500 from Andrew Carnegie, to be devoted to an endowment fund.

*Cincinnati (O.) P. L.* The sum of \$1000 has been given to the city by F. B. Wiborg for the establishment of a children's room in the public library. It is proposed to equip a front room on the first floor for the purpose.

*Clarion, Pa.* On Oct. 30 Andrew Carnegie offered to give \$50,000 for a free public library for Clarion, provided the city furnish a site and agree to provide an annual appropriation of \$3000 for maintenance; if this is not acceptable he will give instead \$25,000 on provision of site and \$1500 annually, or \$10,000 on provision of site and \$1000 annually. It is stated that the \$50,000 offer will be accepted.

*Duluth, Minn.* On Oct. 31 the city council, with enthusiasm and unanimity, voted to accept Andrew Carnegie's offer of \$50,000 for a new public library building. A committee to consider and report upon a site has been appointed.

*East Liverpool, Pa.* On Nov. 15 the city council formally accepted Andrew Carnegie's offer of \$50,000 towards a public library.

The site for the building has been purchased and a library commission is soon to be appointed.

*Guthrie, Oklahoma Ty.* On Nov. 16 Andrew Carnegie offered to give \$25,000 for a public library, provided the city provide a site and guarantee \$2000 yearly for maintenance.

*Houston, Tex.* On Nov. 17 Andrew Carnegie offered to give \$50,000 for a public library building, provided the city furnish a site and guarantee a yearly appropriation for maintenance. The offer has been received with enthusiasm.

*Louisville, Ky.* On Nov. 14 it was announced that Andrew Carnegie had offered to give \$125,000 to Louisville for a free public library building, on condition that the city maintain the library at a cost of not less than \$10,000 yearly and the Polytechnic Society give to the institution its 50,000 volumes, its art works, and a site. The offer has met with public opposition, arising undoubtedly in a measure from the long contest over the suggested lease of the Polytechnic library by the city.

The *Louisville Post* says: "In the judgment of the *Evening Post*, Louisville does not want a Carnegie library as a free gift. Louisville is not a pauper city, and must not accept gifts from princes not of her own people. It was bad enough to attempt to build here a library by licensed gambling; it would not be right to erect on these gambling foundations a structure that would be a monument to beggary. Louisville is able and willing to maintain a library, but it will not build a monument to Mr. Carnegie, nor will it tax itself for any private corporation."

*Menomonie, Wis.* By the will of the late Capt. Andrew Tainter the sum of \$35,000 is left for the care and maintenance of the Mabel Tainter Public Library building, and \$30,000 additional is bequeathed for the support of the library.

*Newport (Ky.) P. L.* On Nov. 14 Andrew Carnegie offered to give \$20,000 for a new building for the Newport library, provided a site is secured and the city will appropriate \$2000 annually for maintenance. The small library now existing was opened about a year ago on the second floor of a business block; it contains about 2500 volumes.

*Oklahoma City, Oklahoma Ty.* On Nov. 15 Andrew Carnegie offered, through Mrs. Selwyn Douglas, of Oklahoma City, to give \$25,000 for a public library, provided the city will furnish a site and guarantee an annual appropriation of \$2000 for maintenance.

*Sandusky (O.) L. A.* On Nov. 7 the association tendered its acceptance of an offer made by Andrew Carnegie to give \$50,000 for a library building provided the association furnish a site and the city guarantee \$3000 yearly for maintenance.

*Sedalia (Mo.) P. F. L.* At a meeting of the directors held Nov. 14 a proposal was submitted by D. H. Smith, on behalf of Andrew Carnegie, offering \$50,000 for the establishment of a library building for Sedalia, on condition that the city furnish a site and guarantee an annual appropriation of not less than \$4000 for maintenance. It is understood that the gift will be accepted.

*Texarkana, Tex.* On Nov. 12 it was announced that Miss Helen Gould had given \$1000 for the establishment of a library at Texarkana in connection with the local Railroad Men's Y. M. C. A.

*Tucson, Ariz.* On Nov. 14 Andrew Carnegie offered to give \$25,000 to Tucson for a public library building, provided the city agree to furnish a site and guarantee an annual appropriation of \$2000 for maintenance.

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### Librarians.

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CARR, Miss Gertrude, of the Pratt Institute Library School, class of '96, and Miss Abby R. Knapp, of the class of '99 (Historical course), have been engaged by the Library of Princeton University.

FOREST, Miss Gertrude E., of the issue department, Boston Public Library, has been appointed librarian of the Public Library, Milton, Mass.

LINDERFELT, Dr. K. A., made a flying visit to America on family affairs in November, visiting some former library acquaintances in Boston and New York. Dr. Linderfelt is still engaged, as for some years past, in editing *La Semaine Medicale*, for which he has been preparing a systematic index, 1880-1898, to appear in 1900, which will be practically a bibliography of important medical articles the world over, within that period. His personal address is 17 Rue Denfert-Rochereau, Paris.

MITCHELL, Miss Tryphena, has been elected librarian of the Vaughn Library, Ashland, Wis., succeeding Miss Janet Green. Miss Mitchell had for some time been assistant librarian at Scoville Institute, Oak Park, Ill.

PARKER, Miss Lizzie G., and Miss Mary A. Kingsbury, of the Pratt Institute Library School, class of '99, have been engaged as assistants at the Library of the American Society of Civil Engineers, New York.

PUTNAM, Herbert. On Dec. 12 Congress formally confirmed the nomination of Herbert Putnam to be Librarian of Congress.

STOCKWELL, Miss Jane, for over 20 years assistant librarian of the Watertown (Mass.) Free Public Library, has been granted three months' leave of absence.

## Cataloging and Classification.

The BOSTON BOOK Co.'s *Bulletin of Bibliography* begins a new volume with the number for October. This contains, among other interesting miscellany, a list of "Bibliographies of the Philippine Islands," by A. G. S. Josephson.

The BOSTON P. L. *Bulletin* for November contains a special list of "Works of English fiction added since 1896 to the Bates Hall collection and not entered in the monthly bulletins." There are about 200 titles, many of which are starred, and the prefatory note indicates that they are designed "for the use of scholars and readers and not for extensive circulation." The books listed include the revised edition of Meredith, Mrs. Craigie's "School for saints," Cahan's "Yekl," Dunton's "Aylwin," etc. In the December number there is a special list (7½ p.) on "South Africa, the 'Transvaal' and the Boers," extending the similar list published in the *Bulletin* in 1896.

BUFFALO (N. Y.) P. L. Class-room libraries for public schools, listed by grades; to which is added a list of books suggested for school reference libraries. Buffalo, November, 1899. 6 + 50 p. O.

An author-title index appended facilitates reference. "The list is only tentative, and other books will be added from time to time."

The CARNEGIE L. (Pittsburgh) *Bulletin* for November contains the fourth of its lists of "Contemporary biography," covering English and American poets. The preceding list on foreign novelists and dramatists appeared in the July *Bulletin*.

CINCINNATI (O.) P. L. Quarterly bulletin, no. 140. April-May-June, 1899. p. 25-56. 1. Q.

The FITCHBURG (Mass.) P. L. *Bulletin* for November has a reference list on art and artists and a useful index to the reference lists published by it from 1896-1899.

INTERNATIONAL CATALOGUE OF SCIENTIFIC LITERATURE. Report of the provisional international committee. (*In Science*, Oct. 6, 1899. p. 482-487.)

The MECHANICS' INSTITUTE (San Francisco) L. *Bulletin* for November has a five-page list of books on mathematics.

The NEW YORK P. L. *Bulletin* for November is unusually large and most interesting. It contains a full classed list of "Works relating to South Africa," covering 32 pages and including much valuable material, state documents, maps, newspapers, rare volumes of travel, etc. There is also a translation of a curious "Memorial on New Mexico in 1626," by Alonso de Benavides, which was addressed to Philip IV. by Juan de Santander; and a detailed list of the original editions of the documents of the first and second Congresses contained in the library.

OTIS LIBRARY, Norwich, Ct. School reading list, adopted by the schools of the Central District. April, 1899. 16 p. O.

A classed list, prepared by Mr. Trumbull, the librarian; the special grades for which the books chosen are adapted are indicated.

PHILLIPS, P. Lee. Preservation of maps: how they are classified, preserved, and catalogued. (*In N. Y. Tribune*, Nov. 26, 1899. 3 col.)

A description of the map collection in the Library of Congress, and of the methods of arrangement, classification, and cataloging.

The SALEM, (Mass.) P. L. *Bulletin* for November contains a full classed reading list on South Africa.

TRELEASE, William. The classification of botanical publications (*In Science*, Nov. 17, 1899. N.S. 10: 713-717.)

Discusses the general subject and submits a scheme of classification. The disadvantages of too many subdivisions are clearly pointed out. That should be left for the specialist who has to deal with a large collection of botanical literature.

UNIVERSITY OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK. State library bulletin. Library school, no. 4. October, 1899. Selected reference books. Albany, 1899. 151-215 p. [interleaved]. O. 10 c.

Intended to illustrate a course of study in reference work,—being the bibliographical aids in the reference course of the New York State Library School—and not to be "complete reference lists on different topics. In many cases other than the best books are used, in order to force comparison and give facility in using tools of all kind in reference work." A classed list, with brief bibliographical annotations, giving fairly full imprint, publishers, and prices; there is a good index. It should be generally useful to reference librarians.

U. S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE. Library bulletin. November, 1899. Accessions to the Department library, July-September, 1899. 28 p. [printed on one side.] O.

WISCONSIN FREE LIBRARY COMMISSION. Suggestions for bulletins and birthdays and anniversaries. November, 1899. Madison, Wis. 8 p. O.

Good practical suggestions for timely bulletin work, giving references to various special lists published by different libraries.

— Travelling reference library on United States history for study clubs. [Madison, Wis., 1899.] 16 p. O.

The list of books for study (25 v.) is followed by useful "suggestive outlines," giving for each period a sketch of the historical divisions to be treated and references to stories, poems, and magazine articles on the subject.

## FULL NAMES.

Edmonds, Richard Hathaway, editor of *Manufacturers' Record*, Baltimore; author of "Facts about the south," etc. — S: H. R.

*The following are supplied by Harvard University Library:*

Cartland, John Henry (Ten years at Pemaquid);  
 Connelley, William Elsey, *ed.* (The provisional government of Nebraska Territory);  
 Esty, Thomas Bruce (Views of the American press on the Philippines);  
 Harraman, Curtis G. (American investments classified);  
 Hillegas, Howard Clemens (Oom Paul's People);  
 Landers, Caleb Marshall (The skeptic's defense);  
 Petersen, Johannes Carl Julius (Cherubin, kurze zusammenstellung, etc.);  
 Severance, Frank Hayward (Old trails on the Niagara frontier);  
 Shepard, Edward Martin (A report on Greene County, [Mo.]);  
 Williams, John Digain (Essays in Welsh literature).

*The following are supplied by the Catalogue Department, Library of Congress, Washington, D. C.:*

Anders, James Meschter (A text-book of the practice of medicine);  
 Bailey, John Read (Mackinac formerly Michilimackinac);  
 Bartlett, Charles Henry, *and* Lyon, Richard Hill (La Salle in the valley of the St. Joseph);  
 Bergen, Fanny Dickerson, *ed.* (Animal and plant lore);  
 Breen, Matthew Patrick (Thirty years of New York politics up-to-date);  
 Breyfogle, William La Martine (Sense and satire);  
 Browne, George Waldo (The woodrangers);  
 Chase, Charles Henry (Elementary principles of economics);  
 Cohn, Alfred Isaac (Indicators and test-papers);  
 Conklin, Julia Stout (The young people's history of Indiana);  
 Davis, Henry Turner (Perfect happiness);  
 Dunn, Byron Archibald (On Gen. Thomas's staff);  
 Eaches, Owen Philips (Doctrines and ordinances of the New Testament);  
 Emerson, Nathaniel Waldo (A syllabus of the course of lectures on minor surgery);  
 Foster, Ulysses Alva (Winds of autumn and other poems);  
 Fox, William, *and* Thomas, Charles Walter (A practical course in mechanical drawing);  
 Fry, Susanna Margaret Davidson (A Paradise Valley girl);  
 Goodpasture, John Ridley (The hope of his calling);  
 Hamp, Sidford Frederick (The treasure of Mushroom rock);

Harris, Jacob Benjamin (A prose translation of Goethe's Hermann and Dorothea);  
 Henderson, George Washington (The science and art of penmanship);  
 Herrick, Stella May (Thoughtful hours: a book of poems);  
 Hildreth, Frederick Louis (Echoes from my song realm);  
 Hillis, Lewis Baker (Chickens come home to roost);  
 Howarth, Franklin Morris (Funny folks);  
 Ives, Martin Van Buren (Through the Adirondacks in eighteen days);  
 Lemon, Joel Bunyan (Elijah, the prophet);  
 Macbride, William Huston (The North American slime moulds);  
 Mallmann, Jacob Edward (Historical papers on Shelter Island);  
 Marsh, Charles Leonard (A gentleman juror);  
 Mitchell, Benjamin Wiestling (Essentials of Latin);  
 Nichols, Fred Richardson, Smith, Charles Henry, *and* Turton, Charles Mark (Manual of experimental physics);  
 Pearson, Henry Clemens (Crude rubber and compounding ingredients);  
 Potter, Jeffrey Watson (Poems of New England and of our country);  
 Prentis, Noble Lovely (A history of Kansas);  
 Rector, Lizzie Eliza, *translator* (Montaigne's education of children);  
 Rees, Byron Johnson (Trumpet-calls);  
 Richmond, Isalah Seth (Waymarks in sacred history);  
 Riggs, John Davis Seaton (In latinum, Caesar);  
 Ruddy, Howard Shaw (Book-lovers' verse);  
 Scudder, Frances Ann Rousseau (*Mrs.* William W. Scudder). (A century of missions);  
 Sell, Henry Thorne (Bible study by periods);  
 Shafer, Leon Alaric (The cup races);  
 Shibley, Fred Warner (A bundle of yarns);  
 Shinn, Josiah Hazen (History of the American people);  
 Shipe, Mary Magdalene (Clinta; or, the inside of life);  
 Skinner, John Rezin (History of the fourth Illinois volunteers);  
 Smith, George Washington (Notes on United States history);  
 Smith, Myra Malinda Johonnot (Demands of society);  
 Spalding, Elizabeth Hill, *and* Moore, Frank Robertson (The language-speller, pt. I);  
 Staley, Cady, *and* Pierson, George Spencer (The separate system of sewerage);  
 Taylor, William Henry (Outlines of everyday chemistry);  
 Thompson, Garrett William (Blätter aus dem leben);  
 Tunstall, Robert Williamson (Eleven orations of Cicero);  
 Williams, Waterman Lester (Statutory torts in Massachusetts);  
 Winship, John Perkins Cushing (Historical Brighton, v. I);  
 Yount, Adolphus Leroy (Clean-cut views).



## Bibliography.

**AGRICULTURE.** Adams, E. F. The modern farmer. San Francisco, N. J. Stone Co., 1899. 662 p. O. \$3.

Lists "A few books of interest to farmers," p. 566 - 575.

**APPIAN of Alexandria.** Roman history; translated by Horace White. Vol. 1: The foreign wars. N. Y., Macmillan, 1899. 2 v. 68 + 413; 34 + 554 p. maps, il. D. \$3.

Pages 28 - 54 of the introduction contain an essay on "The manuscripts of Appian," by Professor L. Mendelssohn and a bibliography of the texts and translations. Mr. White's translation is the third English one, the former two having been published in 1578 and 1679 respectively.

**BROWN, John.** Feathersonhaugh, T: John Brown's men: the lives of those killed at Harper's Ferry. (*In Publications of Southern History Association*, Oct., 1899. 3: 281 - 306.)

Five pages of this article are given to part 2 of the bibliography of John Brown; part 1 was published in the same periodical for July, 1897 (1: 196 - 202).

**CHEMISTRY.** Jones, H. C. Modern theory of solution. N. Y., Harper, 1899. 13 + 134 p. O. \$1.

Contains a bibliography of the chemistry of solution, p. 129 - 132.

**CHILD STUDY.** Rowe, S. H. Physical nature of the child, and how to study it. N. Y., Macmillan, 1899. 14 + 207 p. 12°. \$1.

Incl. bibliography.

**COLONIZATION.** Ireland, Alleyne. Tropical colonization: an introduction to the study of the subject. N. Y., Macmillan, 1899. 13 + 282 p. O. \$2.

The selected bibliography of colonies and colonization (p. 227 - 259) is of particular value to American libraries at this time. The general headings under which the works are arranged include: Works on the general subject of colonies and colonization, British colonies and colonization (general), British possessions and colonies elsewhere arranged by countries, French colonies and colonization (general), French colonies and protectorates elsewhere arranged by countries, German colonies and colonization (general), German colonies elsewhere, by countries; and similar arrangement the Dutch colonies, American possessions in the West Indies and elsewhere, Italian colonies and colonization, and Portuguese colonies and colonization.

The majority of books are histories or descriptions of the several colonies. It may be noted that the experience of Spain as a colonizing power finds no place in the bibliography.

**COPPER.** Colby, Albert Ladd. Copper in steel (*In Iron Age*, Nov. 30, p. 1 - 17, 1899.)

A bibliography of copper in steel and iron covers 1½ pages.

**EDUCATION.** Barnett, P. A. Common sense in education. N. Y., Longmans, 1899. 321 p. D. \$1.50.

Contains bibliographical references at the end of each chapter.

**FULGURITES.** Bibliography of fulgurites. (*In Proceedings, Australian Association for the Advancement of Science*, 1898. v. 7, p. 380 - 383.)

**LANDSCAPE GARDENING.** Waugh, F. A. Landscape gardening. N. Y., Orange Judd, 1899. 152 p. il. D. 50c.

Contains a good list of "Some books on landscape gardening," p. 145 - 148.

**LITERARY CRITICISM.** Spingarn, J. E. History of literary criticism in the Renaissance; with special reference to the influence of Italy in the formation and development of modern classicism. N. Y., Macmillan, 1899. 11 + 330 p. 12°. (Columbia Univ. studies in lit.) net, \$1.50.

Includes a bibliography, p. 317 - 323.

— Gayley, C. M., and Scott, F. N. An introduction to the methods and materials of literary criticism. V. 1: The bases in æsthetics and poetics. Boston, Ginn, 1899. 12 + 587 p. D. \$1.40.

The bibliographical "materials" of this volume comprise the larger portion of it.

**NOVEL, The.** Cross, Wilbur F. The development of the English novel. N. Y., Macmillan, 1899. 329 p. D. \$1.50.

"Bibliographical note" covers p. 300 - 314. There is also a list of 25 novels best illustrating the logical development of the English novel.

**OVID.** Laing, G. J. The three principal manuscripts of the *Fasti* of Ovid. (*In American Journal of Archaeology*, 2d ser., March - June, 1899. 3: 212 - 228.)

Gives the results of a new collation of three manuscripts of Ovid's *Fasti*: Reginensis 1709 (or Petavianus), Vaticanus 3262 (or Ursinianus), and Monacensis 8122 (or Mallerstorfiensis v. 2).

**PHYSICS.** Michigan Schoolmasters' Club. List of books recommended for a high school physical laboratory. (*In Proceedings of the 32d meeting*, April 1, 1899. p. 34 - 38.)

Published by University of Michigan, 1899. A classed list of 215 titles with publisher and price. The most important titles are starred. No notes.

**STEEL WORKS.** Brearley, Harry. A bibliography of steel works analysis. (*In Chemical News*, Nov. 17, 1899. 80:233-234.)

The first instalment of a bibliography which is based almost entirely on the following journals: *Chemical News*, 1860-1899; *Journal of the Chemical Society*, 1885-1898; *Journal of the Iron and Steel Institute*, 1880-1899. The present instalment (32 titles) deals with precipitating iron and precipitating manganese. Annotations note the nature and scope of each article.

**TEGGART, F. J.** Cæsar and the Alexandrian library. (*In Centralblatt für Bibliothekswesen*, Oct.-Nov., 1899. p. 470-475.)

Mr. Teggart discusses the question whether the great Alexandrian collection was burned by Cæsar in the turmoil of the civil strife in that city in B.C. 47. His conclusion is that there is no truth in the commonly accepted version that the library was burned at that time, but that the burning of some large stores of papyrus (possibly books) was later construed by certain authors dependent on Alexandrian sources for information into the destruction of the library. Mr. Teggart has produced fairly strong negative evidence, yet has hardly arrived at definite proof. The silence of Cæsar, never an impartial witness for his own deeds, and of the poet Lucan, together with a somewhat forced interpretation of the notoriously inaccurate Dio Cassius, scarcely form conclusive evidence against Seneca, Orosius (=Livy), Aulus Gellius, Ammianus Marcellinus, and Plutarch.

W. W. B.

#### INDEXES.

**UNITED STATES**, 55th Congress, 2d session, Dec. 6, 1897-July 8, 1898. Index to the subjects of the documents and reports and to the committees, senators, and representatives presenting them, with tables of the same in numerical order. [Being the "Consolidated index" provided for by the act of Jan. 12, 1895]; compiled under the direction of the Superintendent of Documents. Washington, Government Printing Office, 1899. 4 + 364 p. O.

The fourth in the series of document indexes, similar in plan and arrangement with its predecessors. It includes entries for 345 Senate documents, 1024 Senate reports, 586 House documents, and 1643 House reports—a total of 3598.

#### Anonymous and Pseudonyms.

The recent death of Grant Allen reveals the fact of his authorship of the two novels, "The typewriter girl" and "Rosalba" published under the pseudonym of Olive Pratt Rayner. This is formally confirmed in a letter to the *Athenæum* of Nov. 4, from Grant Richards, Mr. Allen's nephew and publisher. Mr. Richards also states that "early in Mr. Allen's literary career he used for his first essays in

fiction the pseudonyms of 'J. Arbuthnot Wilson' and 'Cecil Power,' but that was years ago. Two years ago he wrote a tale for children, 'Tom, Unlimited,' under the name of Martin Leach Warborough."

"Kiplingiana: biographical and bibliographical notes anent Rudyard Kipling," pub. anon. by Mansfield & Wessels, is compiled by Milburg F. Mansfield. — B. W.

"Reveries of a paragrapher, by M. W. L." (Lond., Unwin, 1897) is by Mrs. Mary Wilson Little, an American woman. — B. W.

In the George Barrie edition of Victor Hugo's works (National edition, 1893), M. Edouard Jolivet (translator) is the pseudonym of John Thomson, of the Free Library of Philadelphia. — C. S. K.

*The following are supplied by the Catalogue Department, Library of Congress:*

"Coe," pseud. for Thurlow K. Albaugh, "Canton's great tragedy."

Professor Du Neil, pseud. for Frank A. Clemens, "Practical confectionery recipes."

Charles Edward Lloyd, pseud. for Carrie Jenkins Harris (Mrs. Cicero W. Harris), ed., "State trials of Mary, queen of Scots."

Edda Lythwyn, pseud. for Emma I. Scramm Glismont.

E. P. Maxwell, pseud. for Mrs. Ellen Maxwell Potter, "The students' standard speller."

Lieutenant Murray, pseud. for M. M. Ballou, "Up the ladder."

Rev. Pancratus Friedrich, O.S.B., is the author of "Alwilda; or, her first communion."

*The following are taken from the "Catalogue of title entries of books" issued from the office of the Register of Copyrights, Library of Congress:*

G. Colmore, pseud. of Gertrude Colmore Dunn, "Strange story of Hester Wynne." 20:577 (S. 7.)

Capt. Nautilus, pseud. of Clement Eldridge. "The boy captain." 20:578 (S. 7.)

Yarmo Vedra, pseud. of Holmes Whittier Merton. "Heliocentric astrology; or, essentials of astronomy and solar mentality, with tables of ephemeris to 1910." 20:584 (S. 7.)

"Designing, cutting, and grading boot and shoe patterns and complete manual for the stitching room, by an expert of thirty years." is by C. B. Hatfield. 20:579 (S. 7.)

#### Humors and Blunders.

A THESIS ON THE MULTIPLICITY OF PROFESSIONAL SCHOOLS FOR THE TECHNICAL TRAINING OF LIBRARIANS IN THE UNITED STATES, ALBANY, N. Y.

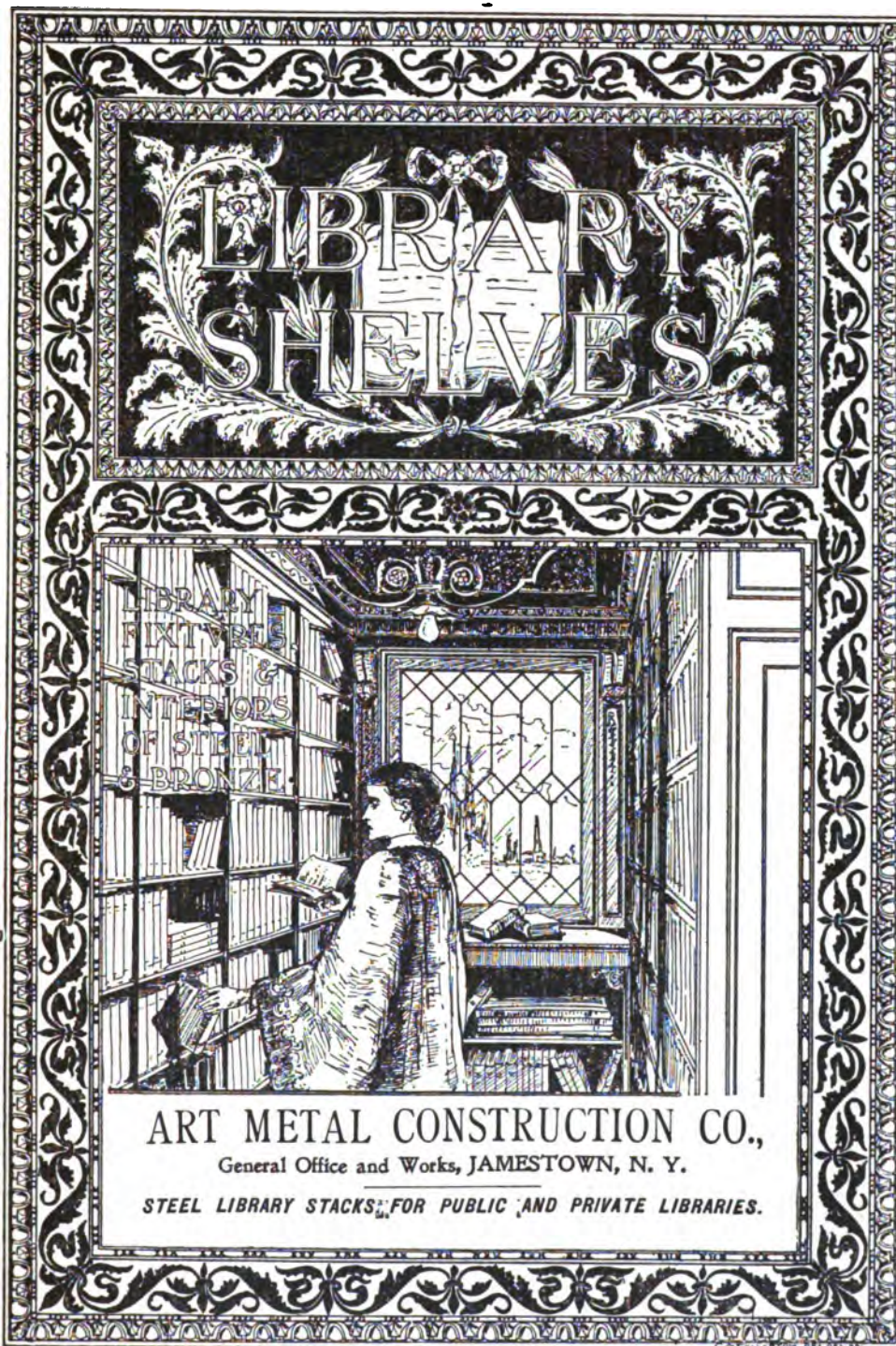
Query:

What wilt thou do, oh Graduate,  
When thou leavest the Library School?  
Do proud positions for thee wait,  
And salaries large and cool?

Reply:

Not that way doth my purpose run.  
Why should I break the rule?  
Just as the others all have done,  
I'll start a new Library School.

F. W. A.



LIBRARY  
SHELVES

LIBRARY  
FIXTURES  
STACKS &  
INTERIORS  
OF STEEL  
& BRONZE.

ART METAL CONSTRUCTION CO.,  
General Office and Works, JAMESTOWN, N. Y.

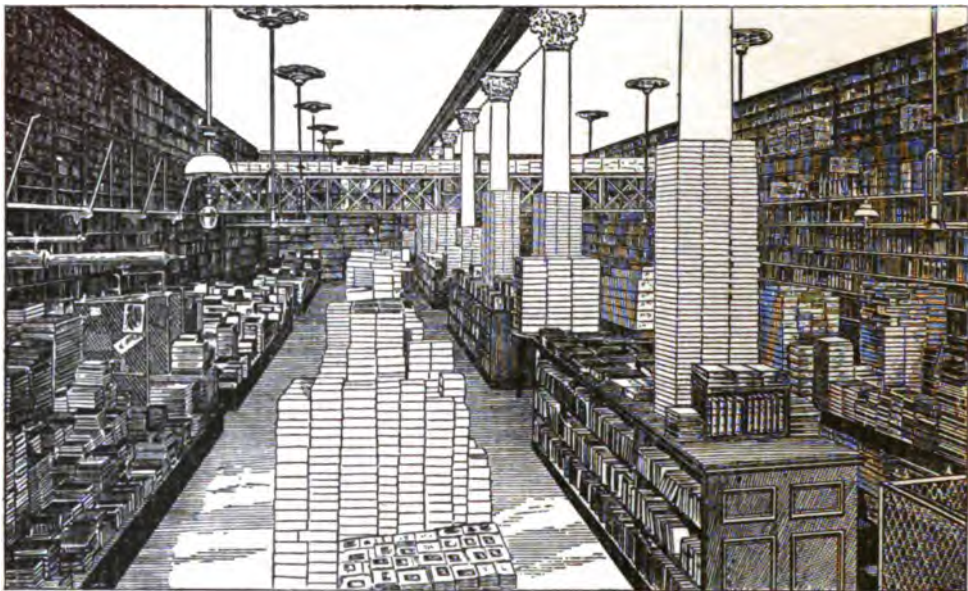
STEEL LIBRARY STACKS, FOR PUBLIC AND PRIVATE LIBRARIES.

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